JULY 2017 £4.30

COUNTRY LIVING

DECORATING • CRAFTS • HOUSES • GARDENS • FOOD • TRAVEL • HEALTH



ESCAPE *to the sea*

Head to the beach for *a rockpool ramble*

Decorate with ideas inspired by the coast

Cook a fish feast and eat alfresco

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL
RENOVATING A FISHERMAN'S COTTAGE IN SUSSEX

plus

CREATING A DREAM PROPERTY IN ST IVES

BERRIED TREASURE
HOW TO GROW YOUR OWN FRUIT

SHIP AHOY!
MEET A TRADITIONAL BOATMAKER AND A MID-CENTURY-MODERN ARTIST DRAWN TO THE SEA

DISCOVER THE ISLAND OF LUNDY AND ITS WILDLIFE

07
9 770951 028279
countryliving.co.uk
HEARST magazines UK



Allendale Dove Grey from the Shaker collection

www.howdens.com
or call 0800 0639 814 to request a brochure



BY APPOINTMENT TO
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
SUPPLIER OF FITTED KITCHENS
HOWDEN JOINERY LTD
LONDON

HOWDENS
JOINERY CO.

MAKING SPACE MORE VALUABLE



+44 (0) 20 7589 5998
smallbone.co.uk

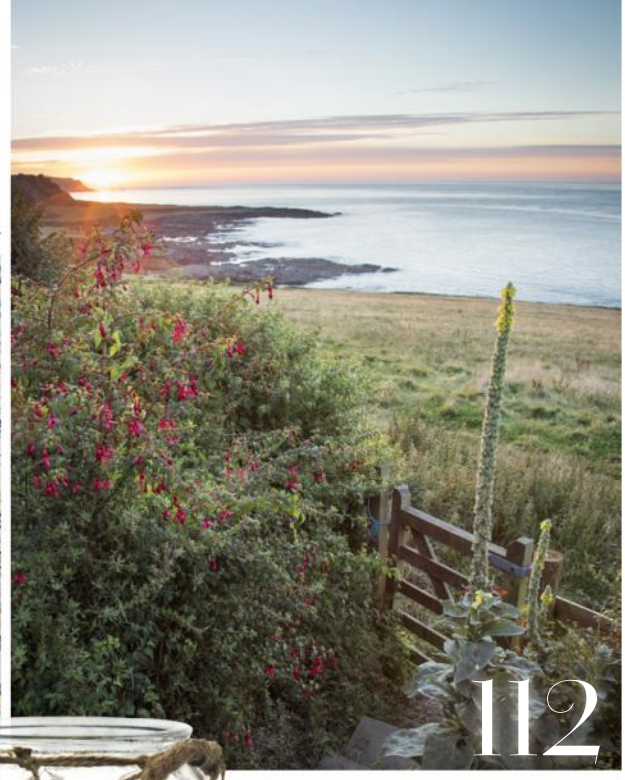
KITCHENS DRESSING ROOMS

SMALLBONE
OF DEVIZES

A member of the Canburg Group

July 2017 issue 379







11

Contents

Houses & gardens

11 **EMPORIUM** New ways to introduce elements of country style to your home

30 **SUMMER BY THE SEA** Enjoy the lapping of the waves and sand between your toes with our fun ideas for an idyllic day at the coast

62 **SEASIDE STYLE** Use sun-bleached wood and a palette of sky blue, coral, aqua and red to bring the spirit of the sea to any room

101 **GARDEN NOTES** Everything you need to know to get the most from your plot

104 **COASTAL CHARM** Vintage treasures are offset by a simple pared-back scheme in an 18th-century fisherman's cottage in East Sussex

112 **WILD AT HEART** Perched high above the south Devon coast, Mark Bolton's bright and beautiful garden is a riot of hot colour in summer

118 **A CORNISH DREAM** A light-filled Victorian property overlooking St Ives is the perfect showcase for its owners' quirky collections

126 **WALLED WONDER** A Victorian garden is being sensitively restored to create a nursery full of tempting perennials, annuals and more

Features

25 **THE GOOD LIFE** Advice for smallholders

29 **COUNTRY LOVING** Rural life isn't always idyllic, especially when it comes to dating...

42 **THE SECRET CAFE** Tucked discreetly along a shoreline footpath, this beachside bistro is a hidden treasure of the Cornish coastline

51 **ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT... OCEAN PLASTICS** How we can help reduce the damage to the marine environment

54 **DRAWN TO THE SEA** Through his striking linocut prints, Melvyn Evans explores the British coastline and its historical associations

74 **PAST MEETS PRESENT** Traditional boatbuilder Gail McGarva breathes new life into a fascinating but threatened craft

ON THE COVER
Rockpool ramble **pages 17 and 30** Coastal decorating **page 62** Cook a fish feast **page 142** Berried treasure **page 25** Sussex cottage **page 104** St Ives property **page 118** Traditional boatmaker **page 74** Coastal artist **page 54** Island of Lundy **page 92**



Contents









July 2017 issue 379

84 **ALL TOGETHER NOW** The village of Mawgan Porth in north Cornwall is home to a community determined to stay true to its roots

92 **EXPLORE... LUNDY** Discover a wonderful wealth of wildlife, history and fascinating traditions on the largest of the islands in the Bristol Channel

Food & drink

134 **GROW & COOK** Our series featuring recipes from celebrated kitchen gardens. This month: The Ethicurean in Somerset

142 **CATCH OF THE DAY** Light, tasty, quick and simple – fish and seafood are the perfect ingredients for summer dishes

Health & beauty

151 **HEALTH NOTES** Improve your wellbeing the natural way with our health and beauty round-up

153 **UNDER THE SUN** Use natural scrubs and nourishing oils to get skin ready for summer

News & views

17 **A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY** What to do, where to go and simple pleasures in July

159 **WHERE TO BUY** Stockist details

178 **MY COUNTRYSIDE** Chef Tom Kerridge

Reader offers

23 **MODERN RUSTIC 08** The latest book in our series on creating the contemporary country look

48 **SOFAS TO SUIT ALL ROOM SCHEMES** Presenting the Country Living Collection by dfs

82 **SUBSCRIBE TO COUNTRY LIVING**

158 **THE INTERFLORA COUNTRY LIVING COLLECTION** Send a special message with a beautiful hand-tied bouquet

TO TAKE OUT A SUBSCRIPTION TO CL THIS MONTH
See page 82 for details

COVER CREDITS
Photograph by Brent Darby. Styling by Sian Evans.
For merchandise details, see page 30



WE BELIEVE

in creating homes that everyone will want to come back to

The right sofa and footstool beckon the entire family to sit down together. The right kitchen can encourage more people to give a helping hand with supper. The right dining table, chairs and setting, might even tempt those who have flown the nest to return home for Sunday lunches, for get-togethers, and for lazy summer barbecues.

Harrogate six-seater table in Fog, £940. Provence dining chair, £120. Chatto sofa, £1,260. Havana dining chair in Silver Birch, £245. Imperial pendant light, £210.

neptune.com
Stores nationwide

NEPTUNE



COUNTRY LIVING

Hearst Magazines UK, 33 Broadwick Street, London W1F 0DQ.
Editorial: 020 7439 5157; Advertising: 020 7439 5134
countryliving.co.uk

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Susy Smith

DEPUTY EDITOR Louise Elliott CREATIVE DIRECTOR Angela Lamb

ART
Art Editor (Lifestyle) Roger Browning
With thanks to Carolyn Rea
Picture Director Patricia Taylor

SUB-EDITORS
Chief Sub-Editor Michele Jameson
Deputy Chief Sub-Editor Sue Gilkes

FEATURES
Features Editor Anna Jury
Deputy Features Editor Lauran Elsden
Editorial Assistant Sarah Barratt

FOOD & DRINK
Food & Drink Editor Alison Walker

HOMES & GARDENS
Home Design Editor Ben Kendrick
Deputy Home Design Editor Alaina Binks
Contributing Garden Editor Paula McWaters

HEALTH & BEAUTY
Contributing Health & Beauty Editor Kate Langrish

WEBSITE
Digital Editor Emma-Louise Pritchard
Writer Katie Avis-Riordan

PRODUCTION & FINANCE
Managing Editor Ingrid Eames
Workflow Director Carly Levy
Production Manager Jeff Pettitt
Senior Advertisement Production Controller Paul Taylor

GROUP PUBLISHING DIRECTOR
Sharon Douglas

DISPLAY ADVERTISING
Client Manager Anastasia Papa
Regional Advertising Director Lisa Bhatti

HEARST CROSS MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS CREATIVE PARTNERSHIPS
Regional Sales Director Keely McIntosh
Head of Marketing Promotions Aoibheann Foley
Group Partnerships Director (Lifestyle) Joanne Cherriman
Art Director Clare O'Sullivan **Art Editor** Laura Passmore
Project Manager Karen Whitehead

SHOWS & EVENTS
Manager Lauren Hubbard
Assistants Louise Duckett, Rhian Hughes

GROUP BUSINESS HEARST MAGAZINES UK
Head of Marketing Operations Jennifer Smith
Head of Digital Marketing Seema Kumari
Head of Consumer Sales & Marketing James Hill
Head of Subscriptions (Lifestyle) Karen Sharp
Customer Marketing Manager Georgina Pearson
Digital Marketing Manager Andrew Potter
Licensing Manager Josie Lahey-James
HR Director Surinder Simmons
Chief Digital Officer Paul Cassar
Director of Communications Lisa Quinn
Circulation & Marketing Director Reid Holland
Director Hearst Brand Services Judith Secombe
Chief Operations Director Clare Gorman
Chief Revenue Officer Duncan Chater
Chief Operating Officer Claire Blunt

PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
James Wildman

HEARST MAGAZINES INTERNATIONAL
Senior Vice President/CFO & General Manager Simon Horne
Senior Vice President/Editorial Director Kim St Clair Bodden

SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES 0844 848 5203

Country Living is a member of the Independent Press Standards Organisation (which regulates the UK's magazine and newspaper industry). We abide by the Editors' Code of Practice and are committed to upholding the highest standards of journalism. If you think that we have not met those standards and want to make a complaint, please contact complaints@hearst.co.uk or visit hearst.co.uk/hearst-magazines-uk-complaints-procedure. If we are unable to resolve your complaint, or if you would like more information about IPSO or the Editors' Code, contact IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or visit ipso.co.uk.

Manuscripts and artwork can be accepted only on the understanding that Country Living is not liable for their safekeeping. UNFORTUNATELY WE CANNOT ACCEPT UNSOLICITED MANUSCRIPTS. Although we make every effort to quote the correct price of all merchandise, it is possible some prices may have changed since we went to press. While we always do our best to ensure that firms and organisations mentioned in the issue are reputable, the Editor can give no guarantee that they will fulfil their obligations under all circumstances. Country Living ISSN 0951-028 is published monthly (12 times per year) by Hearst Magazines UK, c/o USACAN Media Corp, 123A Distribution Way, Building H-1, Suite 104, Plattsburgh, NY 12901. Periodicals postage paid at Plattsburgh, NY. POSTMASTER: send address changes to Country Living, c/o Express Mag, PO Box 2769, Plattsburgh, NY, USA 12901-0239. © A Publication of Hearst Magazines UK

HEARST magazines UK

Hearst Magazines UK is a trading name of The National Magazine Company Limited (Registered in England number 112955) and Hearst Magazines UK 2012-1 Ltd (Registered in England number 4474102) whose registered offices are at 33 Broadwick Street, London W1F 0DQ. Distributed by Condé Nast and National Magazine Distributors Ltd (COMAG), Tavistock Road, West Drayton, Middlesex UB7 7QE (West Drayton 444055) Telex 8813787 COMAG G. This publication is sold subject to the following conditions: that it shall not, without the consent of the publishers first given, be lent, resold, hired or otherwise disposed of by way of Trade except at the full retail price of £4.30; it shall not be lent, resold, hired out or otherwise disposed of in a mutilated condition, or in any unauthorised cover by way of Trade of affixed to or as part of any publication or advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever. Sources, uses and disclosures of personal data held by Hearst Magazines UK are described in the official Data Protection Register.

recycle All paper used to make this magazine is from sustainable sources in Scandinavia and we encourage our suppliers to join an accredited green scheme. Magazines are now fully recyclable. By recycling magazines you can help to reduce waste and add to the 5.5 million tonnes of paper already recycled by the UK paper industry each year. Before you recycle your magazine, please ensure that you remove all plastic wrapping, free gifts and samples. If you are unable to participate in a recycling scheme, pass your magazine on to a local hospital or charity. This magazine can be recycled either through your kerbside collection, or at a local recycling point. Log on to recyclenow.com and enter your postcode to find your nearest sites.

FIRST WORDS FROM THE EDITOR



Escape to the sea...

Living in Britain means we are never far from fabulous coastline. So, once a year, here at *Country Living* we step away from the countryside to focus on our shores instead. In this issue we look at coastal communities and those who make a living, in one way or another, from the sea. We feature beachside houses, gardens that flourish in salt-laden settings and our decorating team suggests shoreline style ideas to give our homes a seaside feel, wherever we live. Earlier this year I visited the island of Lundy off the coast of north Devon. As a keen birdwatcher, I wanted to observe the puffins that nest there every year and I saw them – as well as other nesting seabirds and grey seals – when I was taken on a boat trip by The Landmark Trust. Lundy is a fascinating place (read about it on page 92): if you like wildlife, remote landscapes and getting away from it all, I can't recommend it highly enough. Whichever part of our coastline you visit this year, I hope you enjoy your summer.

Suzy Smith

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM FOR PHOTOS AND VIDEOS
@COUNTRYLIVINGUK

DISCOVER THE LATEST COUNTRY LIVING NEWS ON TWITTER
TWITTER.COM/COUNTRYLIVINGUK

FOLLOW OUR BOARDS ON PINTEREST FOR MORE INSPIRATION
PINTEREST.COM/UKCOUNTRYLIVING

FIND RECIPES, DECORATING ADVICE AND TRAVEL IDEAS ONLINE
COUNTRYLIVING.CO.UK

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK FOR REGULAR UPDATES
FACEBOOK.COM/COUNTRYLIVINGUK

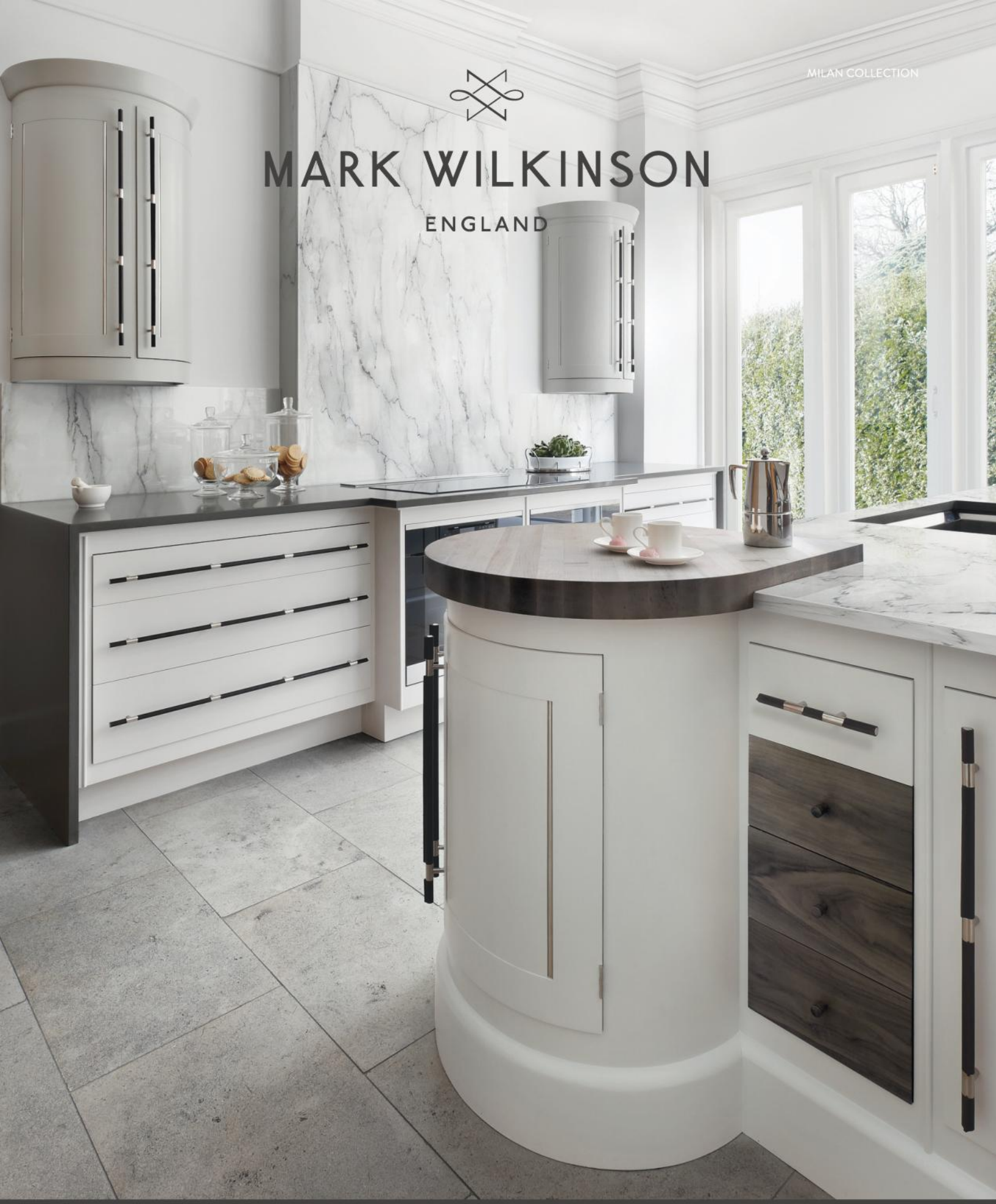
TO SIGN UP FOR OUR WONDERFUL FREE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER, SIMPLY TEXT CL TO 84499 FOLLOWED BY YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.
TEXTS TO THIS NUMBER ARE CHARGED AT YOUR STANDARD NETWORK RATE*

COUNTRY LIVING AND YEO VALLEY – THE PERFECT MATCHMAKING PARTNERSHIP FOR COUNTRY-LOVERS. VISIT COUNTRY-LOVING.CO.UK FOR DETAILS.

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE 1 JULY

country-loving.co.uk
BROUGHT TO YOU BY YEO VALLEY & COUNTRY LIVING MAGAZINE
Yeo Valley

STYLING BY ALAINA BINKS. PHOTOGRAPHS BY PAVEL DORNAK OF HEARST STUDIOS (MOODBOARD) AND RACHEL WHITING (PORTRAIT). ANGLUS STRIPE LINEN (BACKGROUND), IAN MANKIN. PLAIN LINEN, DE LE CUONA. RED LINEN, OSBORNE & LITTLE. SHELLS, SIMILAR. BUY THE SEA. RIBBONS, SIMILAR. JANE MEANS. BLUE-STRIPED COFFEE CUP, DECORATOR'S NOTEBOOK, STRING, PIPII. GLASS BOTTLES AND HANDMADE LIMPET DISH, HOME BARN. *STANDARD NETWORK RATES VARY ACCORDING TO YOUR PHONE PROVIDER. BY TEXTING TO THIS SERVICE YOU ARE OPTING IN TO RECEIVE MESSAGES FROM US BY EMAIL AND SMS. YOU CAN OPT OUT FROM SMS BY TEXTING STOP TO 84499 AND FROM EMAIL BY CLICKING 'UNSUBSCRIBE'



SUMMER PROMOTION

CALL NOW ON +44 (0) 1380 850007 OR VISIT MWF.COM

A member of the Canburg Group

emporium

Bring a fresh coastal feel to your home with bright and breezy seashore-inspired accessories

COMPILED BY ALAINA BINKS

The swallow design on this wool, silk and cashmere-mix scarf by Cressida Bell is inspired by the illustrations of Walter Crane, £80, Royal Academy Shop



Colourful 3D lighthouse card created by illustrator Jonny Hannah, £2.50, Down to Earth Gifts

Striking sardine digital print from an original linocut, £35/framed (also in blue), Lucky Lobster Art



Mugs by Duncan Browning, £14 each, Black Bough



Gower sofa available in seven classic stripes including raspberry (shown), duck egg and natural, from £1,199 for three-seater size*, Country Living Collection exclusively available at dfs

Deckchair with canvas sling in one of Ian Mankin's signature stripes – perfect for the beach or garden, £85



Appliquéd kingfisher cushion by Emma Iles, £54, Seaforth Designs

PRICES AND AVAILABILITY CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. SARDINE PRINT AND CURLEW PRINT PHOTOGRAPHED BY HEARST STUDIOS. *SCATTER CUSHIONS SOLD SEPARATELY.



Coastal birds feature on Joanna Martin's cards, cushions and prints, such as this one of a curlew, £25, Curlew Cottage Design



Linen cushion with a delicate feather print from a watercolour by Nicola Watters, £45

Slim ash wood bench (L90cm x D20cm x H45cm), ideal for a hallway or bathroom, £179, Future and Found

Add a nautical touch with this small decorative wooden yacht (H57cm x L46cm), £24, Adventino



Use this straw basket to hold all you need for the beach, £38, Design Vintage



*PILLAR CANDLE SOLD SEPARATELY



Rye-based artist and potter Steve Duffy creates unique hand-painted ceramics, such as this oval pilchard platter, £155



Create a welcoming glow with this clear glass bowl hurricane lantern*, from £12.60 (two sizes and also in red, blue and green), St Eval Candle Company





Colours inspired by nature
that protect your garden
wood for 6 years.
#mygardenshades

Cuprinol



An ink drawing of an octopus features on this printed linen cushion, from £39, Cream Cornwall

Beach-hut-inspired chest of drawers handmade from reclaimed wood, £495, by Cambrewood from Not On The High Street





Cotton cormorant tea towel by Suffolk artist Richard Bawden, £7.50, Black Bough



Children will have fun with this play tent, available in a black stripe (shown), red polka dot or plain white fabric, £49.99, Grattify

Lottie cotton dress in sizes 8-20, £65, Seasalt





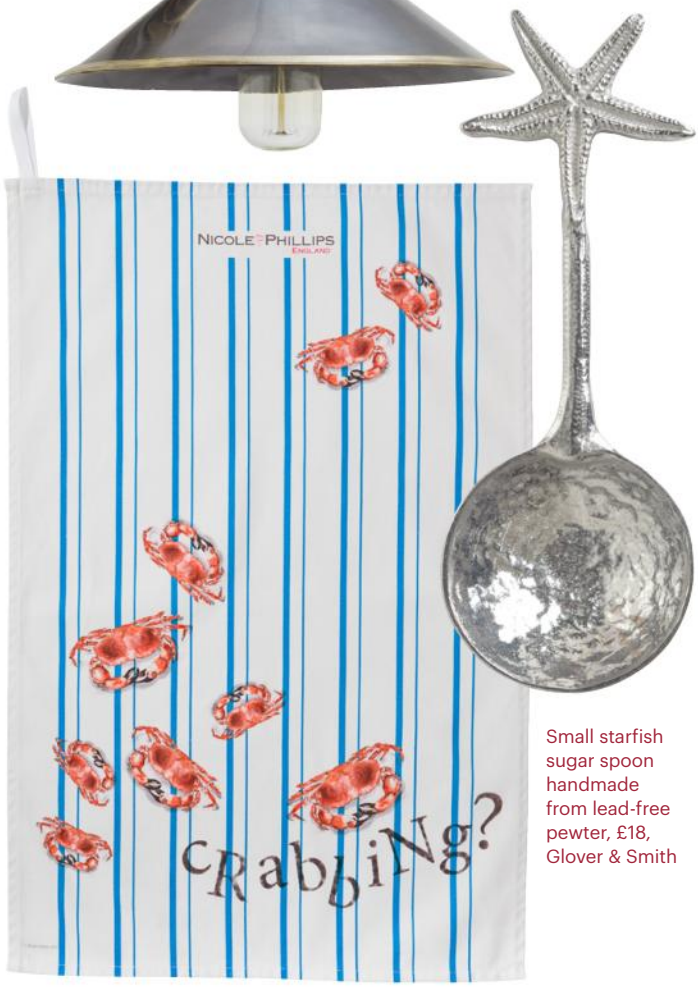
Imprinted with lace before being glazed and fired, this hand-thrown stoneware soup bowl is £22, The Conran Shop



Drawn at Salthouse beach in north Norfolk, this limited-edition ringed plover original linoprint, £95 (unframed), was created by Jeremy James in his Derbyshire studio



Croft swivel wall light with metal shade in a choice of antique brass and brown bronze finish, £534, Jamb



Small starfish sugar spoon handmade from lead-free pewter, £18, Glover & Smith

Nicole Phillips makes home accessories with jolly sea-themed prints, including crabs (shown), fish and scallops, £12.95 for a tea towel



Women's raffia hat with tartan-style cotton trim, £39.95, Barbour



Libby Ballard's speckled coastal stoneware range is inspired by her upbringing on the Isle of Wight; small jug, £22; tumbler, £20

For stockists, see Where to Buy

DELIGHTFULLY DIFFERENT
NATURALLY ROSE



FENTIMANS
ESTD 1905

{ EVERY BOTTLE IS BOTANICALLY BREWED FOR 7 DAYS }


SUMMER
SALE
1 JUNE - 31 JULY 2017
EST / 1989
MANDARIN STONE
Order online at: mandarinstone.com or visit one of our inspirational showrooms:
Bath Bristol Cambridge Cardiff Cheltenham Exeter Marlow Monmouth Weybridge Wilmslow
Excludes Classic and Discontinued lines. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

A Month in the Country

WHAT TO SEE AND DO IN JULY

TAKE PART IN A BEACH CLEAN



What do an unbroken lightbulb, a telegraph pole weighing one tonne and a scaffold clamp from World War II have in common? The answer is that these items have all been washed up on British beaches. Waste materials in our seas have a far-reaching impact, not only for marine life – with hundreds of species eating or becoming entangled in litter – but also for the tourism and fishing industries. With beach cleans and litter-surveying programmes taking place countrywide, there are lots of opportunities to don strong gloves and head for the coast to help out. For more about the Marine Conservation Society and its events all over the UK, visit mcsuk.org. *Turn to page 51 to read more about the growing issue of plastics in our oceans and on our beaches.*

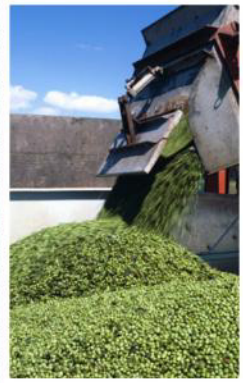
COMPILED BY LAURAN ELSDEN AND SARAH BARRATT



Go glow-worm hunting

AS THE SILVERY MOON RISES ON A WARM SUMMER'S NIGHT, head out in search of a much smaller nocturnal light source – the ethereal flickering spark that emanates from the tail of the common glow worm (*Lampyris noctiluca*). Don't be fooled by the name – it isn't actually a worm at all but a beetle, the flightless female of which can be seen putting on an enchanting luminous display to attract a passing mate. If luck is on your side, a night-time stroll through grassland or in limestone or chalky areas anywhere in the country can reveal up to 100 greeny-orange twinkling lights. Visit *wildlifetrusts.org/lovewildlife* to find out more about them.

IN THE FIELDS THIS MONTH



With the pea harvest under way, farmers prepare to work round the clock, using machines known as 'viners' to suck up the peas and remove them from their pods. This summer there will be nine billion portions harvested, varieties of which include 'Twinkle', 'Jaguar' and 'Novella'.



QUIRKY COUNTRYSIDE
Horn Fair

An event that's been held for centuries, Ebernoe Horn Fair in Sussex centres around a cricket match between rival villages. Towards the end of the day, the batsman with the highest score is awarded a set of horns, taken from a sheep that's been roasted and eaten during the day.



3 THREE COURSES IN... BUTCHERY

1 ***Pork butchery, Shrewsbury, Shropshire***
Under the watchful eye of Maynard Farm's Rob Cunningham, discover how to butcher a side of pork while learning where each cut comes from and how to use it. *1 July; £125 (07788 448191; maynardsfarm.co.uk).*

2 ***Back to basics, Penderyn, Brecon Beacons***
Aimed at keen cooks, this hands-on class is hosted by Charcutier, awarded best producer at the BBC Food and Farming Awards. Among other skills, participants will be taught curing techniques from around the world. *2 July; from £145 (07542 689608; foodadventure.co.uk).*

3 ***Sausage making, Upton, Hampshire***
This course will teach you how to make your own sausages, mix seasonings with flavour combinations and even create a linked batch to take home. *July 14; £60 (01264 736208; parsonage-farm.co.uk).*

A simple make...

POTTED SUCCULENT PLANTS

For an alternative to houseplants, these are a resilient and adaptable addition to your home

PROJECT AND STYLING BY ROS BADGER **PHOTOGRAPH** BY RACHEL WHITING



1 If you're not using ready-made specialist compost (blends for succulents are available from garden centres), mix together compost and grit (also available in garden centres) to an approximate ratio of 70% compost to 30% grit.
2 Drill drainage holes into a selection of old enamel kitchenware (for example, a ladle, jug or bowl) – the larger the container, the more holes needed.
3 Place a 1cm layer of pea gravel in each container, then fill with the compost mixture.
4 Plant the succulents, making sure the fine roots are inserted well into the compost mix. Leave space around each one.
5 Water, allowing excess to drain away. In future, allow compost to dry out slightly between each watering.
6 You can display them outside from July to November on a suitable table (succulents need good ventilation in summer). Group together for the best effect.
7 Keep in a greenhouse or take inside before the first frosts. Don't allow plants to dry out completely, although less watering is required in winter.

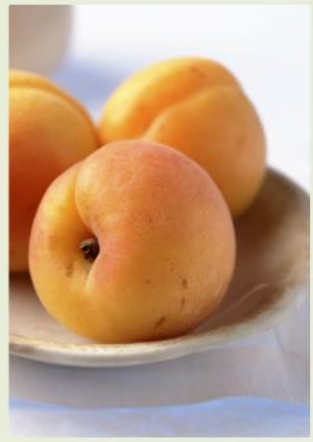
For more on succulent care, see rhs.org.uk/advice. Visit beggarsvelvet.london; @rosbadger.beggarsvelvet.



An ingredient to enjoy APRICOTS

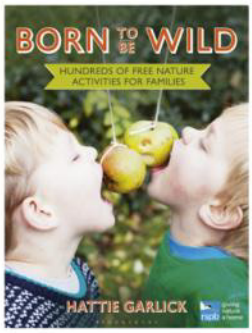
Designer, cook and author Sophie Conran shares her favourite seasonal flavour

Not many know that the hardy apricot tree can withstand temperatures as low as -30°C and then, during those hazy warmer months, reward you with a cascade of golden fruit. Best grown against a south-facing wall, this easy-to-use, versatile fruit goes well in savoury dishes as well as sweet. One of my favourite uses is as an addition to a spicy lamb tagine, or dolloped onto some velvety yogurt at breakfast. For a taste of nostalgia, creamy apricot fool brings back memories of summer days in childhood. *Find out more at sophieconran.com.*




CHESNEYS
FIRESIDE
Fireplace and stove dealers throughout the UK • chesneys.co.uk
LONDON NEW YORK SHANGHAI

A BOOK TO READ



Born to be Wild
(Bloomsbury Natural History, £16.99)
Packed with imaginative ideas, this is a must-read for parents trying to connect their children with nature. Author and mother of two Hattie Garlick says we should revive our relationship with the great outdoors, believing 'all good things are wild and free' – we're inclined to agree.



Ancient Oaks in the English Landscape
(Kew Publishing, £30)
Did you know that England has more ancient native oak trees than the rest of Europe combined? The story of the iconic specimen goes back to the Norman conquest in 1066. Botanist Aljos Farjon combines science and history to shed light on this magnificent tree.

FOLLOW US...
INSTAGRAM.COM/COUNTRYLIVINGUK
FACEBOOK.COM/COUNTRYLIVING
TWITTER.COM/COUNTRYLIVINGUK



STAY ON... A BOAT

For wildlife

***Twee Gebroeders*, Woodbridge, Suffolk**
When not relaxing with a book in the cockpit of this Dutch sailing barge, or *skutsje* (above), head out for riverside walks along the Deben, where you're likely to spot a variety of wading birds and wildfowl. *Sleeps four. From £110 per night (tg1897.com).*

For adventurers

***St Hilda*, Tobermory Bay, Isle of Mull**
Haul up the sails and raise the anchor (under the watchful eye of the skipper) aboard this traditional ketch. Then glide round the west coast of Scotland, looking for dolphins and minke whales. *Sleeps six. From £180 per room per night (visitscotland.com).*

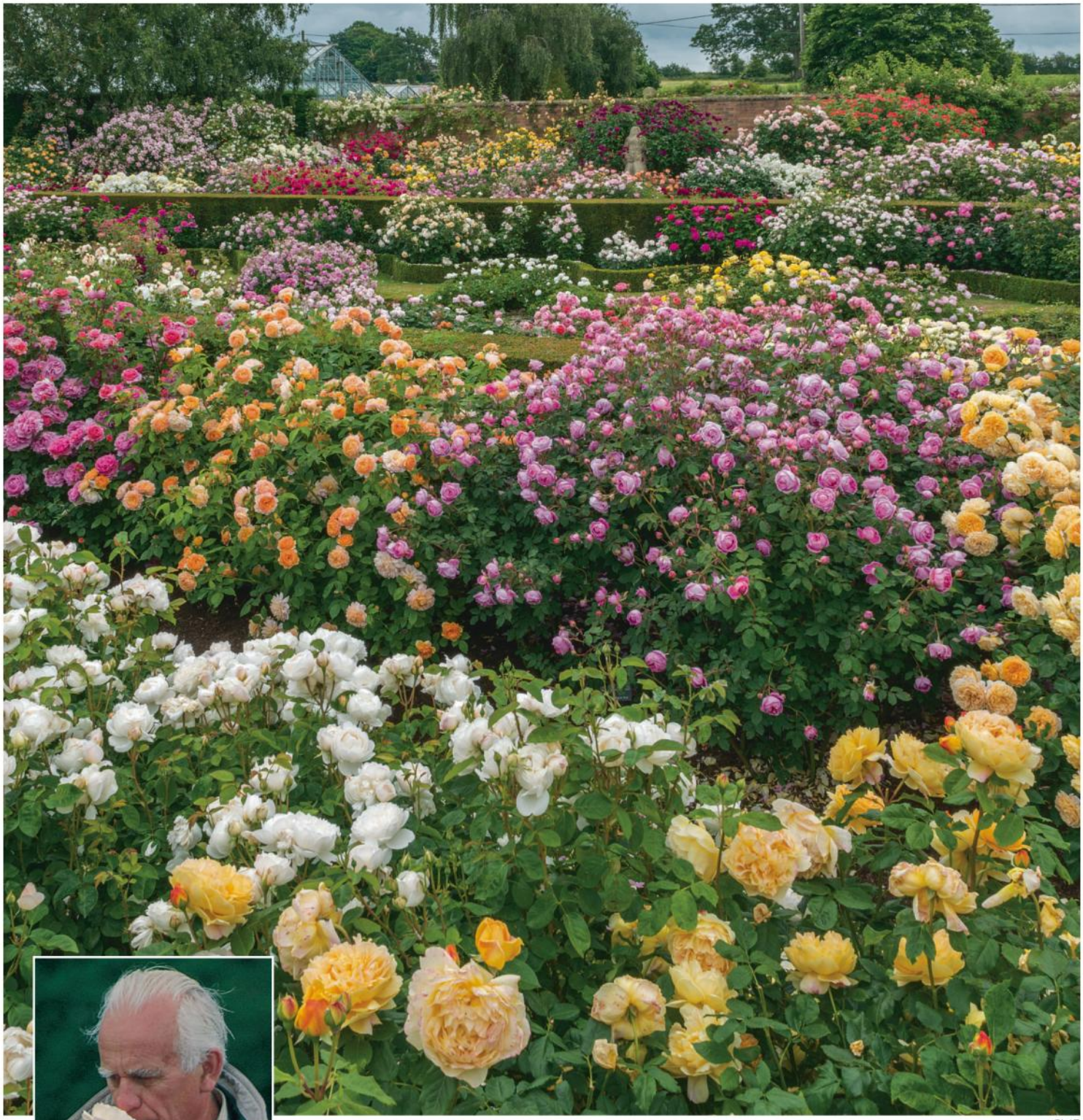
For romance

***Faithful*, Brixham, Devon**
Moored in a secluded area of Brixham Marina, this 'retired' fishing boat features a pretty interior, four-poster bed and spacious galley. Enjoy wonderful views of the harbour or stare wistfully out to sea. *Sleeps two. From £415 for three nights (canopyandstars.co.uk).*



NEWS YOU CAN USE

National Marine Week
From basking sharks to grey seals, velvet swimming crabs to strawberry anemones, the UK's marine environment is brimming with some of the country's most vibrant and fascinating wildlife. Below the water's surface lie habitats just as diverse as those above, including kelp forests, which provide the foundations for one of our most dynamic ecosystems. From July 22, the Wildlife Trusts is holding its annual National Marine Week – a celebration of Britain's sea plants and animals. Events, such as rockpool rambles and seaside strolls, will be taking place all around the coast. Visit wildlifetrusts.org to find out what's happening near you.



CL67

David C.H. Austin

DAVID AUSTIN®

David Austin's Rose Gardens

Take a relaxing stroll around David Austin's world famous gardens and enjoy the spectacular displays of fragrant roses, which flower in flushes throughout the summer right up until the first frosts. Filled with over 700 different rose varieties; the gardens are divided into six themed areas, each designed to inspire visiting rose lovers and gardeners.

Open: 9am – 5pm, 7 days a week, free of charge
Visit: David Austin Roses, Bowling Green Lane, Albrighton, WV7 3HB
Online: www.davidaustinroses.com **Call:** 01902 376334



FIND YOUR DREAM COUNTRY HOME

Our property of the month

LONG THATCH, WILSTEAD, BEDFORDSHIRE £700,000

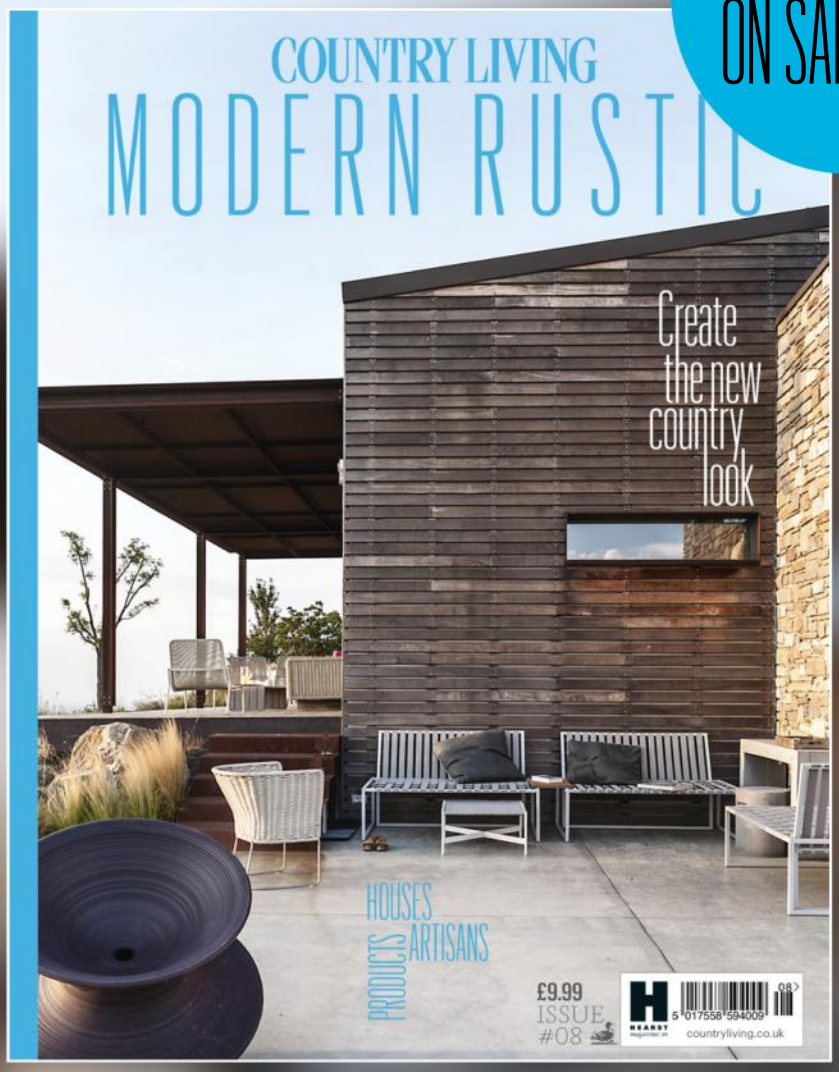
AT THIS TIME OF YEAR, THE ROSE BUSHES flanking the path to this red-brick cottage will be in full bloom, providing a colourful welcome to visitors, who will no doubt be enchanted by the 16th-century property's characterful charm. With a traditional thatched roof and timber frame, it also includes a garden made for summertime soirées, with half an acre of lawn, fruit trees and a terrace. Ensuring it remains the perfect secluded haven, to the back are far-reaching views over Bedfordshire farmland. Inside, period features including exposed beams, inglenook fireplaces and brick floors add to the quintessential country feel. And with a village school, post office, doctor's surgery and two pubs close by, this four-bedroom house would make a wonderful family home.

For details of this and other rural houses for sale, see countryliving.co.uk.

Enjoy the latest home and property features, plus much more, in the CL free weekly newsletter. To sign up, text CL to 84499 followed by your email address.*

INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALAMY; GETTY IMAGES. ILLUSTRATIONS BY JOANNA KERR. HAND-LETTERING BY RUTHROWLAND.CO.UK. *TEXTS TO THIS NUMBER ARE CHARGED AT YOUR STANDARD NETWORK RATE. BY TEXTING INTO THIS SERVICE YOU ARE OPTING IN TO RECEIVE MESSAGES FROM US BY EMAIL AND SMS. YOU CAN OPT OUT FROM SMS BY TEXTING STOP TO 84499 AND FROM EMAIL BY CLICKING 'UNSUBSCRIBE'

NEW ISSUE
ON SALE NOW!



Inspiring interiors, innovative designers and makers, plus stylish pieces for the contemporary country home

Buy online for £9.99 at **hearstmagazines.co.uk/cl/modern-rustic-8**. Or purchase your copy in selected retailers*

*STOCKISTS INCLUDE WH SMITH, WAITROSE, SAINSBURY'S, M&S, TESCO AND ALL GOOD INDEPENDENT STORES


SUMMER
SALE
NOW ON
John Lewis
OF HUNGERFORD
SHOWROOMS NATIONWIDE | 0700 278 4726 | WWW.JOHN-LEWIS.CO.UK

the good life

PRACTICAL IDEAS AND ADVICE FOR WOULD-BE SMALLHOLDERS

GROW YOUR OWN BERRIES

WANDERING INTO THE GARDEN ON BALMY EVENINGS to eat handfuls of ripe berries freshly picked from the plant is definitely one of the joys of the season. Warmed by the day's sun, fresh strawberries and raspberries are far sweeter and more aromatic than anything you can buy. Better still, add a couple of currant bushes (red, white or black) and a gooseberry bush to your plot – these old-fashioned favourites are rarely available in supermarkets and expensive if you do find them. Their jewel-bright berries bring colour and flavour to summer puddings, and make the most delicious jams and compotes to remind you of glorious, sunny days when winter comes.





TIP

Transform blackcurrants into a delectable jam or steep them in vodka for a crème de cassis to be enjoyed with sparkling wine on summer evenings

BLUEBERRIES need acidic soil, so should be grown in a container or raised bed, which can be filled with ericaceous (acidic) compost (readily available in garden centres). Mulch them with pine needles and keep moist with rainwater to maintain the soil acidity. Pots will need to be kept well watered in the summer or the plant may drop its fruit, so have a water butt handy. The compact blueberry species 'Top Hat' does particularly well in a container.

STRAWBERRIES are quite easy to grow. Give them a spot in full sun, plenty of water and some feed, and you'll be rewarded with a juicy crop. Choose your plants carefully and you can extend your harvest well beyond Wimbledon fortnight, too. Plants are available as early (try 'Honeoye'), mid (try 'Cambridge Favourite') and late season (try 'Rhapsody') croppers – as well as perpetual (try 'Bolero'), which can provide two harvests during a summer. Plant a selection and enjoy all summer.

RASPBERRIES are great because the berries on each plant don't all ripen at the same time, so you can eat them over a few weeks. Although they like sun, they still do well in partial shade, so are perfect for

the good life

anyone not blessed with a south-facing garden. There are two types – summer-fruiting produce a crop on last year's growth (try 'Glen Ample'), while autumn-fruiting have berries on shoots that have grown this year (try 'Autumn Bliss'). The latter require less maintenance as they don't need to be trained against a support and you simply cut them down to the ground each winter.

GOOSEBERRIES are rarely found on supermarket shelves. When you do come across them, they are the hard, green and extremely tart varieties that can only be enjoyed once cooked. Grow your own in a sunny, well-drained spot and you can sample the rare pleasure of a dessert gooseberry. Not just green and hairy, they're rich and juicy – try the sweet, red 'Captivator' or the yellow-green 'Golden Drop'.

RED-, WHITE- AND BLACKCURRANTS are expensive to buy and deteriorate quickly after picking. Growing just one or two bushes in your garden can save you money and will provide a beautiful display of glossy berries. They are quite at home in partial shade, and need little more than good feeding and pruning once established. The tricky part comes when harvesting the delicate fruit. They will keep well if whole strings are carefully snipped from the bush, but are best eaten as soon as possible. Try 'Ben Lomond' blackcurrant, 'Red Lake' redcurrant and 'Pink Champagne' whitecurrant.

PROTECT YOUR CROP



Birds are also rather partial to ripe berries, so you'll need to net your crop. Don't cover when plants are in flower – it can make it harder for pollinating insects to reach them – but as soon as you see fruit starting to swell, get the netting out. Opt for the thick, heavy-duty kind as birds are less likely to get tangled in it, and ensure the edges are secured to the ground so they can't sneak under.

CREATE A FRUITY SPACE

If you don't have room for a dedicated fruit patch, you can still incorporate plants into your garden and even make a feature of them.



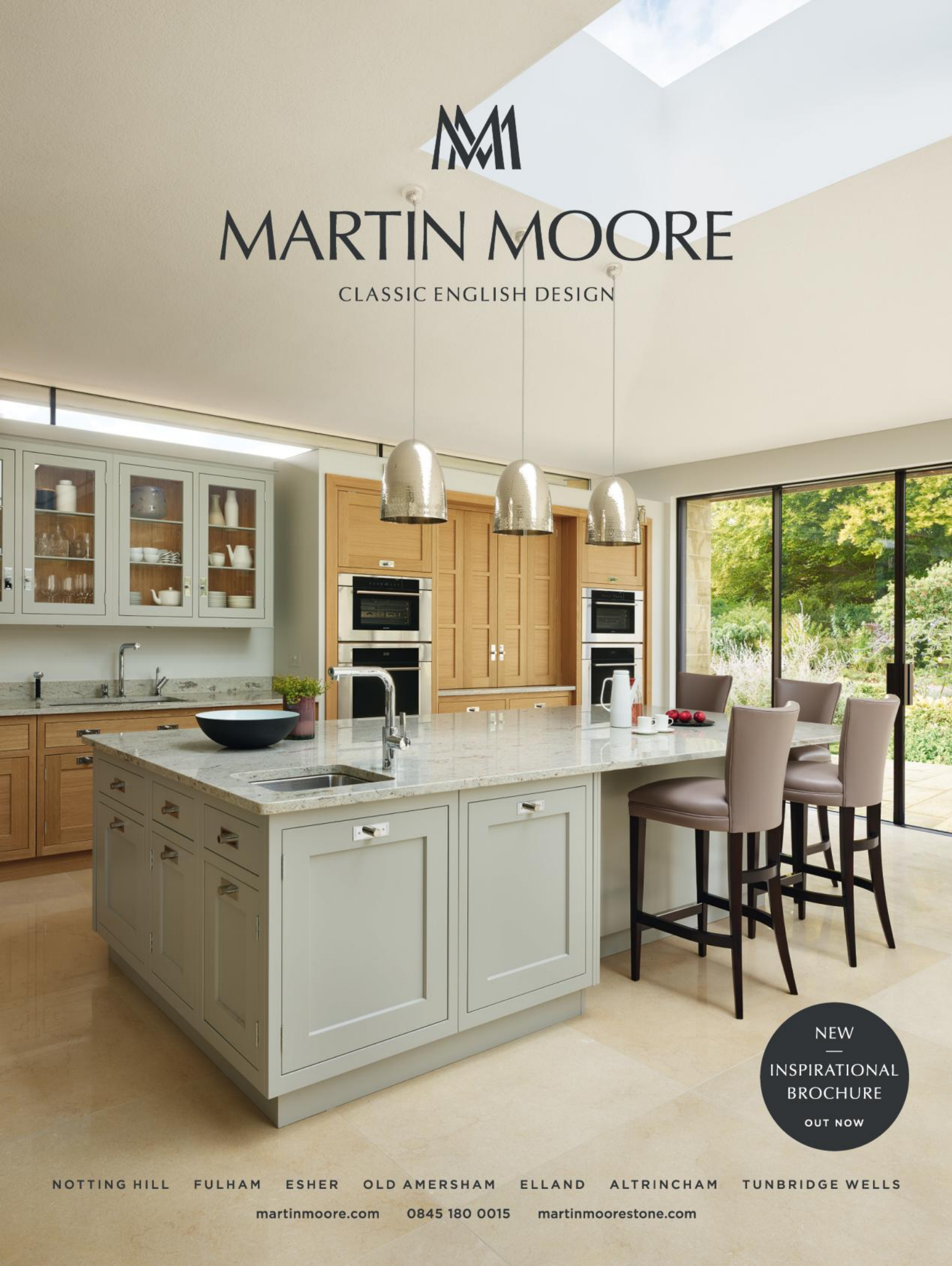
Strawberry planters allow you to grow a good number in a small area and have the advantage of keeping the fruit off the ground. For more impact, plant them in a stack of tiered crates to create a cascade of fruit.

Blueberries are perfect in pots on a sunny terrace, as they'll provide year-round interest – scented flowers in spring, delicious antioxidant-rich berries in summer, and the most fantastic display of fiery red leaves come autumn.



Gooseberries, redcurrants and whitecurrants can be grown as 'cordons' – a single upright stem that bears fruit on short sideshoots and is trained against a support. This allows you to grow a range of different varieties in a small space, and also looks decorative, especially if positioned against a wall.

WORDS BY **KATE LANGRISH**. PHOTOGRAPHS BY HEATHER EDWARDS/GAP GARDENS; GETTY IMAGES. ILLUSTRATION BY ANDREA TURVEY. HAND-LETTERING BY RUTHROWLAND.CO.UK


MARTIN MOORE
CLASSIC ENGLISH DESIGN
NEW
—
INSPIRATIONAL
BROCHURE
OUT NOW
NOTTING HILL FULHAM ESHER OLD AMERSHAM ELLAND ALTRINCHAM TUNBRIDGE WELLS
martinmoore.com 0845 180 0015 martinmoorestone.com



Realise the VELUX potential in your extension

What is the VELUX potential? It's when your extra space becomes an extra inspiring space, enjoying more fresh air and twice the daylight with VELUX roof windows. Perfectly complementing your bifold doors, we can help you create a lighter, brighter extension and realise your home's full potential.

For free advice call 01592 778873 or email psateam@velux.co.uk and the VELUX daylight experts can help you with your next project.

velux.co.uk

Bringing light to life™

VELUX®

COUNTRY LOVING

A calving crisis on the farm leads to a sticky situation for Imogen Green

"HOW," I ASKED MY SISTER-IN-LAW, SHYLY, "do you get someone to – well – kiss you?"

"By 'someone', I assume you mean our gorgeous neighbour, Matthew," she said, and started laughing. We were in the yard waiting for her daughter, Freddie, who was picking her up.

Over the past few weeks, I've started going up regularly after milking to where Matthew keeps pigs, and having long chats with him about animals, children – even bereavement. My heart turns over each time we meet, but I think he might just see me as a friend.

Freddie's car appeared and I avoided her eye. She's been urging me to buy a ticket for *Country Living*'s Ploughing and Feasting event [see right] on a farm in Somerset because she thinks it'll be a great place for me to meet a man. I'm very tempted – I've heard there'll be Shire horses there – but, when it comes to men, Matthew is the only one I'm thinking about. "Don't worry," my sister-in-law said, kindly. "I've seen how he looks at you. Sometimes the first kiss happens when you least expect it."

When I'd washed my hair and put on a clingy summer dress – ready for the pigs – I made a quick detour to the shed to check on the cows that were calving. One we're all fond of, Treacle, was in the far corner, struggling to her feet. From her rear end it looked as if a calf was on its way. My late husband used to say that if something's wrong with a cow, you can see it in her eyes. I'd never understood it before, but now, looking into Treacle's, I knew she was in pain. So I postponed meeting Matthew and waited, recalling last summer when Treacle taught herself to lick the switches in the dairy, turning the machines on and off – giving us such a mischievous look that we always forgave her. Her companions cuddled softly around us in the sun-dappled shed and, after an hour, I saw what I'd been dreading: a small, dark tail emerging. It was a breech birth – I knew I couldn't handle it, so I rang the vet.

Barely 20 minutes later, a Subaru drew up. Inside was Sean Cary, the vet who'd flirted with me briefly last spring. He was cool and professional as he examined Treacle, his blonde hair flopping over narrow green eyes. Holding her head, I wondered why I'd ever fancied him – he seemed so young and brash now, compared to Matthew. "It's a massive calf," he said, removing a plastic glove. "I'll never get it out. She'll have to have a Caesarean." Treacle was given an epidural and a local anaesthetic, and, as she waited calmly, head down, Sean washed her and cut her open. It all happened quickly, the speed almost brutal. Sean rummaged for the calf's back legs, pulled them free and got me to hold them as he slid the rest of the body out.

The calf was beautiful. He steamed slightly as I cleaned his face and poked a piece of straw into one nostril. This might seem unkind, but it's the simplest way to get a newborn to breathe. The calf wrinkled his nose and sneezed, very much alive, and, as always, every time there's a birth on the farm, my eyes welled up. I dragged him round to Treacle's head and she began licking him with her rough tongue.

Sean finished stitching the wound and stood beside me. "Isn't that the best sight in the world?" he said.

"It's amazing, what you did," I said, turning towards him. And he kissed me. There was a moment when I responded (I couldn't help it – he's really attractive) before I leapt back. "Sorry," he said, grinning. "I couldn't resist."

The patch of sunlight we were standing in moved, and I heard fast footsteps walking away across the yard. Matthew!

country-loving.co.uk
BROUGHT TO YOU BY YEO VALLEY & COUNTRY LIVING MAGAZINE

JOIN US FOR OUR PLOUGHING AND FEASTING EVENT!

Whether you're looking for love or just like the idea of spending a day at beautiful Yeo Valley Farm, find out more in our August issue.

'Dairymaid seeks man who can read the look in her eyes'



ILLUSTRATION BY JOANNA KERR

Summer *by the* sea

The lapping of waves, the tang of brine, and sand between your toes – enjoy the great British seaside, equipped with our ideas for an idyllic day out

WORDS AND STYLING BY **SIAN WILLIAMS** ● PHOTOGRAPHS BY **BRENT DARBY**





OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Drive down quiet lanes to seek out secluded spots in hidden bays, then relax in deckchairs beneath a fabric shade.

Canopy in Waters Edge Sea Spray cotton, £11.50/m, Prestigious Textiles at Curtain Your Home. Bamboo **canes**, £3.31 (for ten); **rope** (supporting the canopy), 57p/m: all B&Q. **Bucket and spades**, from a selection, ebay. Camping **stool** in Suffolk Stripe, £25; rocking **deckchair** in Suffolk Stripe, £70; steamer **chair** in Suffolk Stripe, £120; Pembridge **picnic basket**, £42; Perfectly Drinkable **bottles**, £4 each: all Garden Trading. Enamel **mug**, £6.99, Temptation Gifts. Wicker **basket** (left side of steamer chair), similar from Not On The High Street. Blue **rope** (on steamer chair), £1/m, B&Q. **Towel** made from white waffle cotton, £8.95/m, Fabric-online. Cotton **bands** (on towels) made from The Captain's Pattern by Jonny Hannah, £48/m, St Jude's. **Quilts** made from Hobbs poly-down wadding, £13, Hobbycraft; Bilbao Chalk cotton, £18.50/m, Villa Nova; Deep Sea cotton by Emily Sutton, £66/m, and The Captain's Pattern cotton by Jonny Hannah, £48/m: both St Jude's. Boy's **shorts** and **T-shirt**, from a selection, Boden

Nothing lifts the mood more than a sea view – sit back and watch the waves ebb and flow



FIVE OF THE BEST DRIVE-ON BEACHES IN THE UK

1 Pendine Sands, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire
Originally known for land attempts at the world speed record in the 1920s. You can drive on for a small fee but there is limited access as it is partly owned by the Ministry of Defence.

2 Black Rock Sands, Porthmadog, Gwynedd
There are miles of sand here, which you can drive onto if you pay a small fee.

3 Ainsdale Beach, Lancashire
You can drive and park on this beach from May to September.

4 Benone Strand Beach, Co Londonderry
Beautiful long beach with views to Scotland and Donegal. Dogs are welcome, but there is a dog-free zone from May to September.

5 Brean Beach, Somerset
Cars can be parked on the beach in certain areas, though some signed sections are muddy. Dogs and horses are welcome.

Campervan hire, from £325 for a short break (Friday to Monday), Pembrokeshire Classic Campers (07816 119490; pembrokeshireclassiccampers.co.uk).

TAKE A SEAT

Pack up a collection of deckchairs, stools and cushions in jaunty stripes.

Opposite Campervan **curtains** in Fredrika cotton, £4/m, Ikea. Steamer **chair** in Suffolk Stripe, £120; rocking **deckchair** in Suffolk Stripe, £70; camping **stool** in Suffolk Stripe, £25; Pembridge **picnic basket**, £42; Perfectly Drinkable **bottles**, £4 each: all Garden Trading. Wicker **basket** (next to steamer chair), similar from Not On The High Street. **Cushions** made from Ascot Stripe, £29.50/m, Ian Mankin. Home Front enamel **mug** (next to van door), £6.99, Temptation Gifts. **Fishing net**, from a selection, ebay. **Quilts** made from Hobbs poly-down wadding, £13, Hobbycraft; Bilbao Chalk cotton, £18.50/m, Villa Nova; Deep Sea cotton by Emily Sutton, £66/m, and The Captain's Pattern cotton by Jonny Hannah, £48/m, St Jude's

SHORE FINDS

Sandcastles have a timeless appeal for children; comb the shoreline for interesting pebbles to decorate them.

This page **Cushion** made from Ascot Stripe cotton, £29.50/m, Ian Mankin. Camping **stool**, **picnic basket** and **bottles**, all as before. **Catapult** (in basket) from a selection, Etsy. **Pebbles** painted in Sky no 9; Sage no 5; Rose no 8; Ruby no 10 pigment paints, £5.99/125ml each: all London Vintage Paint Company. Boys' **shorts** and **T-shirts**, all from a selection, Boden. **Fishing net**, as before









All the family can spend time hunting for driftwood and shells when the tide is out







SEASIDE MEMORIES

Children love racing along the sand, bucket in hand, to find shoreline treasures.

Opposite Girl's cotton-rich short denim **dungarees**, £16, Marks & Spencer. **Buckets and spades**, from a selection, ebay

LUNCH BY THE SEA

Pack a mix of practical picnicware, such as enamel or melamine cups and plates, miniature milk bottles and a traditional coffeemaker that you can use on a small camper stove.

This page, left Campervan **curtains**, as before. Ice-cream **cups**, £3.50 (for eight); paper **cups**, from £2.25 (for ten); wooden **cutlery**, £3.99 (for ten of each); **straws**, £2.85 (for 25): all Pipii. Pezzetti LuxExpress two-cup moka pot **coffee maker**, £13.75, Espressodrinker. **Drinks bottles**, from £1.99 (per 250ml) each; similar traditional enamel pie **plates** and coloured plastic **containers**: all Lakeland

Above **Picnic basket**, **bottles**, camping **stool**, **cushion** and **fishing net**, all as before. Miner's **lantern** in Dorset Blue, £8.50, Garden Trading

COUNTRY LIVING MAKES COUNTRY LIVING



BEACH TOWEL

Make your own towels from plain waffle fabric trimmed with a colourful band of washable cotton.

White waffle **cotton**, £8.95/m, Fabric-online. Cotton **bands** (at each end of the towel) in Coral Reef Periwinkle, £30.95/m, Prestigious Textiles at Curtain Your Home



HURRICANE LAMPS

Create sturdy lanterns from preserve jars with rope handles. Place pebbles and shells in each one and add a tealight with a wire loop so it's easier to lower in.

1L Kilner **jars**, £8.99 (set of three), Lakeland. **Tealights** and **rope**, from a selection, B&Q. Craft **shells**, £1.20 (for 20), Hobbycraft





PEBBLE WEIGHTS

Keep a picnic blanket or tablecloth in place on a blustery beach with stone weights, painting them with coastal-themed motifs, then adding handy string ties to finish.

Sisal **rope**, 92p/m; white **cobblestones**, £9.92 (a sack): both B&Q. Stones painted in Sky no 9; Sage no 5; Rose no 8; Ruby no 10 pigment paints, £5.99/125ml each: all London Vintage Paint Company


CLARKE & CLARKE
HALCYON
www.clarke-clarke.com

A DAY AT THE BEACH

For the cleanest and safest stretches of sand to visit, check thegoodbeachguide.co.uk.

All merchandise as before.

For stockists, see Where to Buy



WITH THANKS TO PENDINE COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR ALLOWING US TO PHOTOGRAPH ON PENDINE SANDS, CARMARTHENSHIRE (PENDINESANDS.ORG)

By appointment to The Royal Danish Court

morsø









OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING SCANDINAVIAN STYLE

With more than 160 years of Danish heritage cast into our Outdoor Living range, we make life's simple pleasures a lot more beautiful.

morso.co.uk

/morsouk

CDB934



Rest and relax

Wake feeling refreshed after a great night's sleep on an expertly crafted British mattress

Getting a restful night after a hard day is something that we all dream of, especially if you suffer from aches and pains, so finding the right mattress and bed is imperative. To wake up with a spring in your step, take a look at Rest Assured's latest collection. The company has been making 'Beautiful Beds since 1898' and, in partnership with the British Wool Marketing Board, The British Wool Collection offers expertly made, top-quality mattresses that are ideally suited for contemporary and traditional country homes in a choice of three simple comfort options. Available in softer, medium and firmer, each one is handcrafted in the UK with a zoned pocket-spring unit for excellent spinal support. The double-sided mattress incorporates three layers of luxurious wool, including one from British Cheviot sheep, known for their durable and plush fleeces, and a woven cover with Allergy UK-approved natural Purotex keeps the mattress fresher and drier using natural probiotics. Stylish headboards and bases in versatile soft tones with clever under-bed storage solutions help create a calm, neat environment, in which you can rest assured that you'll enjoy a good night's sleep.













CL readers can save up to £250* on a mattress and non-storage divan base

For more information about The British Wool Collection from Rest Assured, and details of where to find your nearest independent retailer, visit rest-assured.co.uk

*NOT AVAILABLE WITH OTHER OFFERS OR TRANSFERABLE TO OTHER PRODUCTS. SAVING VARIES ACCORDING TO PRODUCT AND SIZE OPTIONS. HEADBOARD NOT INCLUDED IN THE OFFER. VISIT REST-ASSURED.CO.UK FOR FULL OFFER DETAILS AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS. OFFER ENDS 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

The *secret* café

Tucked discreetly along a footpath, this beachside bistro is a hidden treasure of the Cornish coastline

WORDS BY **SARAH BARRATT** • PHOTOGRAPHS BY **NOEL MURPHY**





















THIS PAGE Everything served is locally and ethically sourced, including the line-caught fish, which is sustainably caught in the bay **OPPOSITE** Simon and his fellow chefs cook up huge pans of paella and curries, all freshly prepared each day





CLOSE YOUR EYES AND IMAGINE THE PERFECT summer's day. What do you see? For most people, it's a sandy bay, clear blue water, the tide drifting in and out and maybe a simple supper, including fish so fresh you can taste the sea. Heavenly.

Unfortunately, the reality all too often fails to live up to the daydream, which is why arriving at The Hidden Hut on the Roseland Peninsula beach of Porthcurnick feels somewhat surreal. The sun is edging its way towards the horizon, casting an ephemeral glow across the golden sand. Pockets of people happily chatter across big oak tables – their voices muffled by the distant crash of the sea. Some savour cones of Cornish ice cream, others slather mackerel pâté onto crusty bread. The smell of sweet spices and fried fish wafts from the outdoor kitchen. This is summer as people dream it. No cars, no crowds – just sea, sand, simple food and good company.

Presided over by Jemma Glass and Simon Stallard, who took over the National Trust lease in 2010, The Hidden Hut ('hidden' being the operative word) is a beachside café like no other. Accessed only on foot via the coastal path between Portscatho and St Mawes, to the untrained eye it looks more like a potting shed than a restaurant. But to those in the know, it's home to the best (and most reasonably priced) seafood in town. No wonder tickets to weekly 'feast nights', to which diners bring their own wine, cutlery and crockery, sell out within minutes.

It's difficult to imagine this spot in anything other than dazzling sunshine, but of course it isn't always so. "We've had feasts in storms and during weather warnings," Jemma says, "Once, horizontal rain was driving inside the hut and 45mph winds meant we couldn't put up any cover."

"It was one of my favourites, though," Simon adds. "We had creamed potato, steamed greens and a sticky rib of beef cooked over a coal pit. We were so excited, then the weather came in. But we couldn't cancel; whatever happens, we never cancel." Still, the couple didn't hold out hope that all, if any, of the 82 ticket holders would show up. But they did. In fact, four extras came along in the hope there might have been cancellations. Even then, the pair had expected hungry feastgoers to dash over the hill bearing Tupperware before swiftly returning to the comfort of their cars



to eat in the dry. But they discovered that guests come for the whole Hidden Hut experience, not just the food. "We built a fire and sat around it with our umbrellas up, singing," Simon continues. That's the spirit of things here – community is at the core and everyone mucks in, including Jemma's mum Maggie, who lives around the corner in Portscatho and bakes many of the sumptuous cakes on offer at the counter.

The couple, who have a three-year-old son, Oscar, were living with Maggie when they came up with the idea for The Hidden Hut. Simon would walk past it every day on his way to The Rosevine hotel, where he was a chef. "I used to say, 'I'd love to run a beach café,' and knew we could make something work here." So when the National Trust decided to renew the lease, the pair asked to take it over. "When we first opened, it was just me and Mum because Simon was working full time," Jemma remembers. "I'd be here with my book waiting for customers." This must have felt like déjà vu for Jemma, who grew up in the area and worked at the hut as a teenager when it was little more than a shack selling coffee from polystyrene cups. "If you'd told me then that I'd be running it later on, I'd have thought you were crazy."

A LOVE OF FOOD

Guildford-born Simon arrived in Cornwall 13 years ago to run a gastro pub kitchen. "Regionally, the food scene is amazing. That's why I came down," he says. "And that's why you stayed," laughs Jemma. "Nothing to do with me or anything." This is clearly a running joke – aside from Jemma, food is clearly the love of Simon's life.

Since the very first feast, when there was little more than some grilled mackerel, potato salad and a sign saying 'BBQ' at the top of the road, the hut has proven to be an extraordinarily popular







destination, despite (or perhaps by virtue of) its hard-to-reach location. For those who don't manage to secure a much-coveted feast ticket, lunchtimes are open to all, with no need to book. Think rustic cardboard containers brimming with hearty seafood chowder, fragrant fish curry, mackerel, squid, crab – or whatever else the sea has to offer that day.

FRESH FROM THE SEA

Fishermen delivering their catch straight from ocean to kitchen is a regular sight. "From corner to corner, the water here is prolific for fishing but really carefully managed," Simon says, looking out across the bay. "The small families who fish here do so under line and oar – you don't see any big trawlers coming through." From bream to beef, everything served at the hut is locally and ethically sourced. A "one-man band with a polytunnel" is responsible for the hut's vegetables. "We love it because he and his wife were picking courgettes yesterday and we had them in our curry today," Jemma says.

As dusk falls, Simon sets about lighting tall medieval-looking torches, while Jemma places thick woollen blankets onto the wooden benches. The obscured shapes of hungry customers begin to emerge over the hill – all armed with wicker picnic

THIS PAGE, FROM LEFT Maggie serves another hungry customer; communal tables are laid with tablecloths and simple arrangements of flowers **OPPOSITE** Jemma also sells cake, drinks and lunches from the Hut: "We don't spend a penny on advertising and we've got no signage, so we love it when people are surprised to discover us"



baskets, crockery, bottled beer, blankets – and one couple, rather peculiarly, a chandelier.

Tables are communal and, once everyone is settled, inter-party chatter quickly commences. Diners break bread and speak animatedly over flickering candlelight and something unusual becomes clear – no one is on their phone. "There's no signal here – it's like an enforced digital detox," Jemma laughs. "It's enriching to stop for an hour or two and just be outdoors."

Dinner is announced and diners follow their noses to where burly chefs are serving generous portions of jasmine rice and Keralan curry – inspired by Simon's travels in India – as well as plenty of fresh fish. You can spot seasoned visitors by the size of their plates – novices hold modest breakfast bowls, while the experienced wield vast pasta dishes in which to fit more plentiful portions.

The party is made up of an assortment of locals and those who have travelled far and wide to be here tonight – one couple has come from Exeter, another Manchester. There are students from nearby Falmouth University, young families, elderly couples and everyone in between. With prices starting at £14 for a smoky shellfish dinner, attendees are aware they're getting real value for money. Most say they'd be willing to pay a lot more, but Simon and Jemma want to keep it "inclusive not exclusive".

Night falls and with it sweeps in a chilly sea breeze, but spirits remain high and the night feels young with people still huddled together in the light of the fire, drinking wine from paper cups and polishing off second portions of curry. Some tuck blankets round bare legs as Jemma ponders whether to hand out hot-water bottles. Simon smiles: "It doesn't look like anyone's going to leave tonight."

For more details and to buy tickets, visit hiddenhut.co.uk.





Sofas to suit all

The Country Living Collection by dfs includes a range of stylish
one is handcrafted to order in a Derbyshire workshop to the



LOCH LEVEN

With Chesterfield-style deep button arms, this sumptuous model is available in beautiful linen as well as traditional velvet. There are 18 different colours, including citrus and duck egg. Price of natural linen-covered model shown is £1,849.



LAVENHAM

Featuring elegantly scrolled arms, this stylish sofa is available in 13 colours, including duck egg (shown) and lavender. Available in a choice of feet and supplied with scatter cushions. Price of model shown is £995.



GOWER LEATHER

This 100 per cent leather design has a decidedly retro feel and comes in a choice of three original shades – walnut (shown), oak and ebony – and will age beautifully. Also available as a corner unit and with different types of feet. Price £1,999.



KESWICK

The clean lines of this smart sofa make it a versatile choice for any room. Available in 14 different colours such as green, heather and dark grey (shown); the easily removable covers can be dry cleaned. Price £1,299.

room schemes

designs to suit both traditional and contemporary tastes. Each highest standards and is available in a choice of beautiful fabrics



GOWER STRIPE

If you want to add a touch of coastal charm to a room, this would be the ideal choice. It comes in seven colours, including duck egg, raspberry and charcoal stripe (shown). Check, plain, pattern, velvet or plaid versions also available. Price £1,199.



ST IVES

This contemporary sofa is a good option for large rooms. Available in a choice of 14 classic colours, such as blue, slate, cream and natural (shown), and two fabrics, with a 100 per cent cotton option new for this year. Price £1,299.



MORLAND

Combining comfort with style, this elegant design comes with standard back cushions or a low back and scatter cushions as shown. In six colours including stone (shown) and slate, plus a stylish plaid (at extra cost). Price £1, 299.



BURFORD

Perfect for traditional country schemes, this curved button-back sofa is covered in a tweed-like fabric. Available in a choice of deep, practical colours, including charcoal and grey (shown). Price £1,198.

For more information and to order, call 0808 149 4868 or visit dfs.co.uk/countryliving

FIND
MORE
FREE
MAGAZINES

FREEMAGS.CC



Shaker kitchen **£8,600**

For all these fully built kitchen units▲

63 showrooms nationwide, visit wrenkitchens.com

wren KITCHENS

▲Priced kitchen is for units only and does not include the price of handles, worktops, appliances, sink, tap, props, accessories or small worktop appliances. Price taken 26/04/2017

RANGEmaster Miele NEFF AEG BOSCH ZANUSSI CDA **WE'LL BEAT ANY QUOTE**



ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT...

Ocean plastics

Plastic litter is increasing by an alarming amount and a large part ends up in the sea, damaging the marine environment. Can this tide of destruction ever be reversed?

WORDS BY **ANNA MELVILLE-JAMES**

How has this become a growing problem?

As we know, plastic is cheap, versatile and durable – which is why it's an ideal packaging material. However, all that convenience comes at a price – the world has produced more plastic in the past ten years than the previous 100 years combined, and the majority of this has been in the form of single-use items, such as drinks bottles, plastic bags and food packaging, which are immediately thrown away. In the UK just one third of discarded plastic is recycled, to varying degrees of efficacy. A further 50 per cent is deposited in landfill sites or incinerated, but perhaps most concerning is that the remaining amount is washed into our seas, contributing to the 12 million tonnes of plastic that enters the oceans every year. This is a worldwide problem but it is also very much on our doorstep. The Marine Conservation Society has found an increase in litter of around 140 per cent through its beach surveys since 1994.

How does it end up in the sea?

There are two main ways that the plastic we use lands in our seas and on our beaches. Small items such as plastic bags, disposable cutlery, food wrappers and bottle lids are either dropped as litter or blown out of rubbish bins or landfill sites into rivers, streams and down storm drains, eventually joining the sewage system. This isn't designed to process them, so they are washed into the sea, where they are eventually broken down into tiny pellets or 'micro-plastics'. The other source is microbeads, minute plastic particles that are used in toiletries, toothpastes and home-cleaning products. These also go down our drains and into the sewage system, which can't filter them out so this results in them being deposited in the sea.

What are the consequences?

These 'ocean plastics' are being swept by currents, or 'gyres', into rubbish 'patches'. Reports on these vary but some accounts describe areas of debris in the North Pacific that are thousands of miles across. In addition to this, the smaller pieces, such as microbeads and micro-plastics, spread throughout our oceans, littering our beaches and swallowed by many forms of ocean wildlife. A recent study estimates that 90 per cent of seabirds now have plastic in their stomachs. Deep-sea animals that live 1,830 metres below the surface have also been discovered with it in their systems. As a result the material is working its way into our food chain – when we eat seafood







Ways to help reduce the amount of plastic going into our seas include avoiding beauty products that have microbeads and opting for bags for life over single-use alternatives

that has consumed microplastics, for example, trace amounts then end up in our stomachs.

Why is it in the news at the moment?

The Government has pledged to ban microbeads in toiletries by the end of 2017. This has been welcomed by campaigners, but many still feel that the ban, which doesn't cover microbeads in household products, hasn't gone far enough. "Marine life doesn't distinguish between plastic from a face wash and plastic from washing detergent, so the ban should be extended to microplastics in any product that could be flushed down the drain," says Greenpeace UK senior oceans campaigner Louise Edge.

But aren't all plastics recyclable?

Most are, but in practice this doesn't yet translate to a solution. According to the British Plastics Federation, the UK uses more than five million tonnes of plastic each year, of which only an estimated 29 per cent is currently being recovered or recycled. 'Plastic' means any 'mouldable' material, but now generally refers to synthetic polymers made from oil. The most common domestically recycled ones, PET and HDPE plastics, are collected by 92 per cent of UK councils. However, waste must be sorted carefully, without other mixed plastics in it, to be viable for recycling. And it's not just here that the recycling loop can break down – many companies that label their products as recyclable don't actually use the recycled product in their packaging. Notable culprits are soft drinks brands, which obtain less than a tenth of their plastic bottles from recycled sources.

What can be done about it?

The answer lies in a combination of legislation, commercial incentive and consumer awareness. You can reduce your plastic footprint immediately by committing to avoid single-use plastics such as cutlery, straws, bags, single-serving packs and drinks bottles – in the UK we throw away a staggering 16 million of these a day. Strike microbeads from your shopping list, too – product ingredients won't necessarily say 'microbeads', so look for polyethylene (PET), polypropylene (PP) and polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA), or check your product on websites such as beatthemicrobead.org. Finally, join in with clean-ups such as The Plastic Movement, an initiative set up by Cornish lifeguards to recycle all the plastic found on the county's beaches, or the MCS's annual Great British Beach Clean in September (mcsuk.org). To find out more about beach cleans, go to page 17.

What do you think? Like and message us on Facebook (facebook.com/countrylivinguk). You can also email us at country.living@hearst.co.uk

THE CL VERDICT

The issue of ocean plastics can feel insurmountable but the truth is we can make a difference. Since the introduction of the 5p levy on plastic bags in 2015, their use has dropped by 85 per cent – from seven billion bags to 500 million in the first six months alone – subsequently slashing the number washing up on our beaches. As environmentalist Robert Swan says, "The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it." It's vital for all of us as consumers to do something to help.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALAMY; GETTY IMAGES; ROGER INGLE/FAUNA & FLORA INTERNATIONAL

Geberit AquaClean Mera
The WC that cleans you with water.

GEBERIT

Exceptionally brilliant



WhirlSpray shower technology

Touchless WC lid automatic function

Dryer

Odour extraction

TurboFlush technology

WC seat heating

Orientation light

DESIGN MEETS FUNCTION

Experience a completely new feeling of freshness and cleanliness with Geberit AquaClean Mera: the shower toilet that cleans you at the touch of a button with a spray of warm water. For better hygiene and greater well-being, please visit → www.geberit-aquaclean.co.uk/mera or 0800 032 9629



drawn TO THE SEA

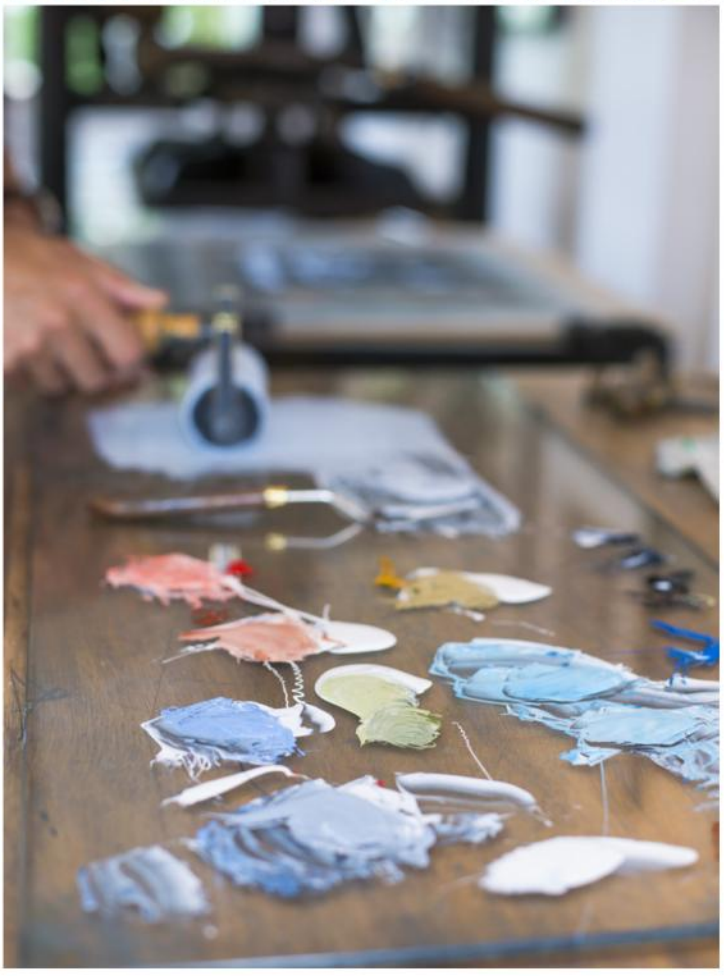
Through his handmade linocut prints, Melvyn Evans explores the British coastline and its working practices – along with its links to our ancient past

WORDS BY **ALEX REECE** ● PHOTOGRAPHS BY **RACHEL WARNE**


ALBION
HARRILD
MAKERS
PATENT
1012













"My artworks always start with a sketch," says artist and printmaker Melvyn Evans, as he walks down to the seashore, just a stone's throw from his house in Whitstable on the north Kent coast. Picking up his charcoal pencil, he focuses on the light changing on the sea, the outlines of boats and even the shapes of unusual stones, while his cocker spaniel, Bessie, runs over mudflats exposed by the receding tide. Moving on to the nearby harbour, where he sits on the quay wall with his sketchbook, he captures vignettes of the working port, as containers of fish and shellfish are unloaded by the fishermen with a clatter.

These timeless scenes make their way into Melvyn's linocut prints, which he creates by hand – using an antique press. "If I sit and draw only for five minutes, and I look at the drawing again, it brings the whole scene back," he explains, adding that the tonal values of charcoal translate into the colourways of his finished work. Fishing towns of the South East, such as Whitstable and Hastings, regularly feature, as do the coastal paths of Pembrokeshire, remembered from childhood holidays, along with historic vessels – ketches or schooners framed by near-abstract landscapes that link to our ancient past.

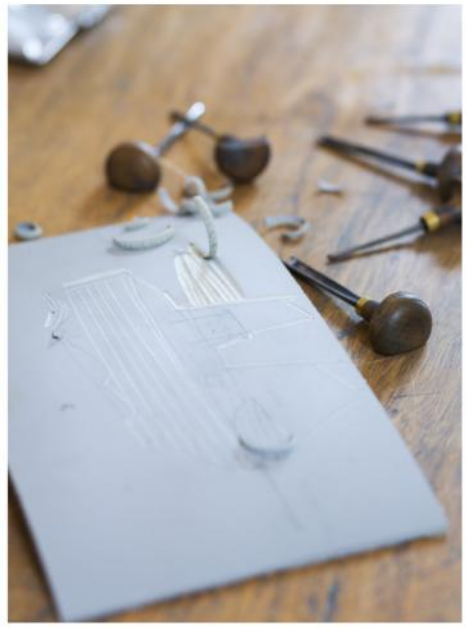
The influence of the British coast has been there throughout Melvyn's life. As his father was in the Navy, he and his three siblings were raised in various port towns in southern England, mostly near Portsmouth where he remembers playing on the beaches at Hillhead and Gosport along the Solent. His mother was an artist, so he and his siblings were always encouraged to draw. Although Melvyn initially wanted to pursue a career in art, his father urged him to learn a manual trade to guarantee future employment: "So I went to Portsmouth Dockyard and did a five-year apprenticeship as a fitter and turner." He then found himself working on aircraft carriers and destroyers, and spent 18 months stationed on submarines. "I hated it at the time," he laughs, recalling the early starts and the smell of diesel, "but it's very informative now."

Once his apprenticeship was over, Melvyn cashed in his pension fund to pay his way

Melvyn spends much of his time soaking up the atmosphere of different coastal landscapes, sketching charcoal images that appeal to his sense of history before creating his linocut designs

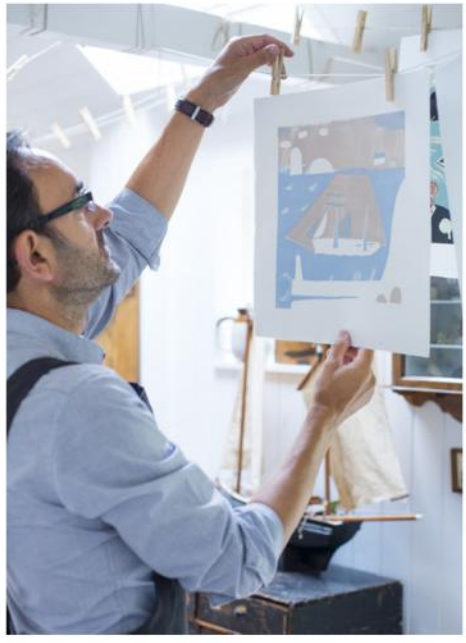

Sitting pretty.
Find your perfect sofa and more in one of
our showrooms or explore the collection at sofa.com
sofa.com
Armchair critics welcome: Chelsea · Islington · Bankside · Bath · Harrogate · Edinburgh · Glasgow · Amsterdam
www.sofa.com · 0345 400 2222













through art school – first doing a foundation course in Carmarthen, near where his parents settled, then gaining a degree in illustration at Exeter College of Art and Design. It was there that he developed an interest in printmaking, and also in the work of mid-century artists such as Edward Bawden, Eric Ravilious, Henry Moore and the St Ives School – whose sculptural lines and fascination with the landscape were to inform his own signature style. Beginning his career as a graphic designer in the capital, Melvyn went on to become a professional illustrator – creating book covers and magazine artwork, packaging designs and museum posters.

By 2011 though, a lot of his output was digital, and Melvyn decided he wanted to return to a simpler way of working, concentrating on traditional printmaking and gallery work: "I like using my hands and being more craft based." To this end, he converted the garage of the family home he shares with wife Jane and daughter Alice in Sevenoaks, Kent, into a studio big enough to accommodate a printing press. The 1860 model he acquired through a Suffolk collective of makers – ornately decorated with acanthus leaves and lion's feet – has enabled him to do larger pieces with high-quality colour registration. Through taking part in South East Open Studios, and then being invited to show at Knole Park, a National Trust property near Sevenoaks, his linocut prints began to gain popularity. This then led to exhibitions at the Royal Academy and the Royal College of Art.

His white, timber-clad studio is filled with light from windows on three sides and warmed by a 1930s Scandinavian woodburner. Suspended on lengths of wire by wooden pegs, finished pieces hang up to dry while time-worn cabinets and a plan chest display inspirational touchstones: vintage model boats made by retired

Using separate blocks for each colour, Melvyn carves out the design with a gouge. Ink is then applied to the lino blocks with a roller, and the image is printed onto handmade Somerset Satin paper, one colour at a time. Proofing each piece can take time before he feels that the composition works


HARVEY JONES
KITCHENS
Handmade by us,
especially for you
BATH BATTERSEA BOURNEMOUTH BRENTWOOD BRISTOL CAMBRIDGE CARDIFF CHELTENHAM
CHESTER CHICHESTER CHISLEHURST EDINBURGH FULHAM GLASGOW GUILDFORD HAMPSTEAD
HARROGATE HOVE ISLINGTON LEAMINGTON SPA MARLOW MILTON KEYNES NOTTINGHAM
NOTTING HILL OXFORD SHEEN ST.ALBANS TUNBRIDGE WELLS WILMSLOW WINCHESTER WORCESTER
Call now for your free brochure:
Tel: 0800 032 6489
www.harveyjones.com
HANDMADE IN THE UK
BUILT TO LAST







From his weatherboarded house in Whitstable, Melvyn scans the shoreline for inspiration – the family stay there at weekends with cocker spaniel Bessie and have furnished it with Melvyn's work and other coastal references

fishermen; reference books on modern art and historic ships; and glass cases lined with beachcombing finds. Many of these were found while staying in the family's modest 'home-from-home' in Whitstable, which Melvyn believes was converted from a former boatyard. It, too, is a weatherboarded building, furnished with model boats and original artworks. For him, scouring the intertidal zone for fragments of history is 'addictive', and Whitstable, where they spend weekends and holidays, is an especially rich seam for Roman pottery, ancient flints and clay pipes. His exploration of our pre-industrial past – and how it survives today – is a recurring theme in his art. "I'm interested in our relationship with the landscape, how we've affected it over millennia and the things we've left behind, like the old monuments and chalk figures," he says.

Melvyn's work is filled with familiar sights from the present day: fishermen landing their catch on Hastings beach or the Old Neptune pub at Whitstable surrounded by Thames barges and oyster smacks. Busy ports are rendered in a vibrant mix of red, white and black. Pembrokeshire, meanwhile, is a lusher blend of mainly green and brown. "I think I will work my way around the coast," he enthuses, "because every area is unique, with different types of boats and working practices."

No matter how far Melvyn travels, however, Whitstable – with its annual oyster festival, Dickensian pubs and the spectacular sunsets over the bay that so entranced Turner – will always have a pull on him. "There's a lot of history here," he says. "It's probably what keeps drawing me back."

For more details, visit melvynevans.com, stjudesprints.co.uk and emmamason.co.uk. See Melvyn's work at The Fry Art Gallery Annual Exhibition and Sale in Saffron Walden, Essex, 11-12 November (fryartgallery.org).


Round here, we do
things your way
SOFA WORKSHOP
our craft, your creation
Together we'll create your perfect sofa, handmade in our British workshops, with frame guarantee up to 25 years.
Visit your nearest shop, call free on **0800 2300 048**
or visit **sofaworkshop.com** for latest offers.



Seaside STYLE

Use sun-bleached wood and a palette of sky blue, coral, aqua and red to bring the spirit of the sea to any room

WORDS BY **BEN KENDRICK**



KEY FEATURES

- Natural materials are at the heart of this look – think whitewashed woods that have the appearance of seaworn materials, shaped and softened by the elements. Or try painted wood in shades of white, blue or watery green, with hits of bolder colour. Seaside-themed accessories will immediately conjure up a coastal feel – a pair of oars or a weathered sign, perhaps – but avoid using too many or the look may become clichéd.









FABRICS

Choose plain, textured heavyweight linens or homespun designs that have a traditional appearance, such as striped linens and cottons. Checks and utilitarian tickings are great choices, or opt for printed patterns with nautical or seaside motifs. Fabrics such as denim (another good utility option for curtains or upholstery) or faded florals are a stylish way to introduce colour to a pale scheme. Lightweight sheers also work well and come in a variety of designs, including printed or embroidered.



COLOURS

Use a combination of cool whites, greys and off-whites as a backdrop, then introduce more interest, warmth and life with sandy shades or small measures of stronger colours, such as coral, red, aqua, seaglass green or blue. For the best effect, look for tones that are slightly faded and seem a little aged or bleached by the sun.



FURNITURE

Driftwood pieces are perfect for this style but can be hard to find. Instead you could opt for items in reclaimed wood with a distressed paint or limed finish to create a weather-worn feel. Woven items in wicker, rope, rush or jute look the part or incorporate elements into chair seats or backs. Outdoor furniture, such as bleached teak or hardwood or folding metal styles, used inside can have a similar effect.

FLOORING

Wooden boards that have been sanded back and treated with pale wax or lye soap to give them a silvery, worn appearance are simple but stylish. Porcelain tiles, which are more durable, are now available to mimic this look. Solid painted boards in whites, creams and greys (use floorpaint for best results) are another good option but are less hardwearing. Natural coverings – seagrass, sisal, coir and jute – have a textural appeal and are ideal used wall-to-wall or as bound rugs.



Welcome to my store at 65-67 Monmouth Street, London

You can also visit our webshop, call 0800 056 9912 or e-mail order@gudrunsjoden.co.uk. Free shipping, fast delivery and 30 day return policy!





TEXTURE

Aged, worn and distressed, or chalky, matt and rough – furnishings with these qualities are an integral part of the look. Rope, woven cording or tough sisal all speak of the seashore. Choose furniture or lampshades made from woven materials or add design features such as a rope bannister. Use chalky matt emulsion paints or a reclaimed stone floor or worktop for plenty of surface interest.






CATCHPOLE & RYE
KENT ENGLAND
EXCLUSIVE | LUXURY | BATHROOMS
LONDON • TUNBRIDGE WELLS • ASHFORD
T. 020 7351 0940 www.catchpoleandrye.com







ACCESSORIES

Rustic or old artefacts are good ways to introduce a coastal feel. Displays of shells, driftwood or storm lanterns work, as do marine artworks, seascapes and vintage bird prints.

A nature table covered with collected finds creates an evocative still-life, while a collection of straw hats can summon up holiday memories. Glassware arranged on shelves, a mantelpiece or windowsill has a watery appeal – try blown-glass buoys, demijohns, bell jars or storm lanterns.

Other elements that strike a nautical note include postcards and maps, carved shorebirds or model ships and boats.



“TRANSFORMING *a room with a* VIEW”





Trust Sharps to help you choose bespoke fitted wardrobes in the perfect style, creating personalised storage space that's designed for your every need and makes the most of every inch of space. We'll then fit it beautifully, enhancing your room's best features, transforming it into your perfect place.

Be inspired by our free brochure or discover your perfect bedroom at your nearest showroom

sharps.co.uk | 0800 789 789

follow us on ℗ and ◎

sharps

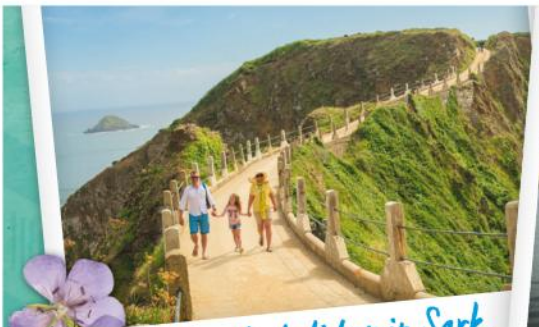
created with you

LIGHTING

For authenticity, go for styles that have a nautical heritage or resemble ships' designs. Choose utilitarian fittings, enamelled pendant shades or floor lamps and metal finishes with a rugged aesthetic. Tripod lights, based on a theodolite, in brass and wood look effective. Woven lampshades, and those covered in raffia or burlap, have a textural quality. Alternatively, opt for industrial-looking styles based on ships' bulk-head lamps and table lights with glass bases in watery tones.



STYLING BY BEN KENDRICK; HESTER PAGE. PHOTOGRAPHS BY CAMERA PRESS; CRAIG FORDHAM; FUR SIE/CAMERA PRESS; GAP INTERIORS/GREG COX; CATHERINE GRATWICKE; LIVING4MEDIA; LOUPE IMAGES/POLLY WREFORD; CLAIRE RICHARDSON; GITTE STAERBO; HENNY VAN BELKOM/VANBELKOMPRODUCTIONS.COM; MIKKEL VANG/TAVERNE AGENCY



First family holiday in Sark, a car free paradise



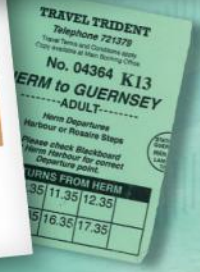
Days start with a splash!



She said Yes!



Sandy toes on one of Britain's best beaches



Hop to 5 Islands and make memories you'll treasure forever!

#GuernseyMemories

Welcome to Guernsey, a place where memorable moments are made. Nestled in the English Channel, it's the jewel of the British Crown. You don't have to limit yourself to just one island escape, you can explore the five Islands of the Bailiwick on an island hopping adventure. With more than 2000 hours of sunshine each year, daily direct flights and sailings, you don't have to travel far to feel away from it all.

So don't wait! Plan your island hopping holiday now and make **#GuernseyMemories** that will last a lifetime.

Search 'Guernsey Memories'
visitguernsey.com

MAKE GREAT MEMORIES in GUERNSEY
HERM • SARK • ALDERNEY

Great Atmosphere & Service

Beach location with 5 acres of private landscaped gardens, outdoor heated swimming pool and fantastic staff , the Peninsula is a great place to stay.



Summer Offer:
£60.00 PP
including breakfast and free hire car

the Peninsula Hotel

Book now: **01481 248400**
reservations.pen@cwgsy.net
peninsulahotelguernsey.com

Island of Sark

Just 50 minutes by boat from Guernsey. No cars, just birdsong, wildflowers and stunning views, plus accommodations and restaurants.



REPRESENTING THE BAILIWICK OF GUERNSEY FOR BRITAIN IN BLOOM

Isle Of Sark
A world apart

Book now: **01481 832345**
office@sark.co.uk
sark.co.uk

Island Hop to Alderney

Just a stone's throw from Guernsey lies the treasured island of Alderney. A hidden gem with beautiful beaches, rich heritage, wildlife and scenery waiting to be discovered.



BOOK YOUR HOP WITH BUMBLEBEE.GG

Alderney
THE CHANNEL ISLAND

Book now: **01481 822333**
info@visitalderney.com
visitalderney.com

VISITGUERNSEY


Lyme Regis
Gig Club

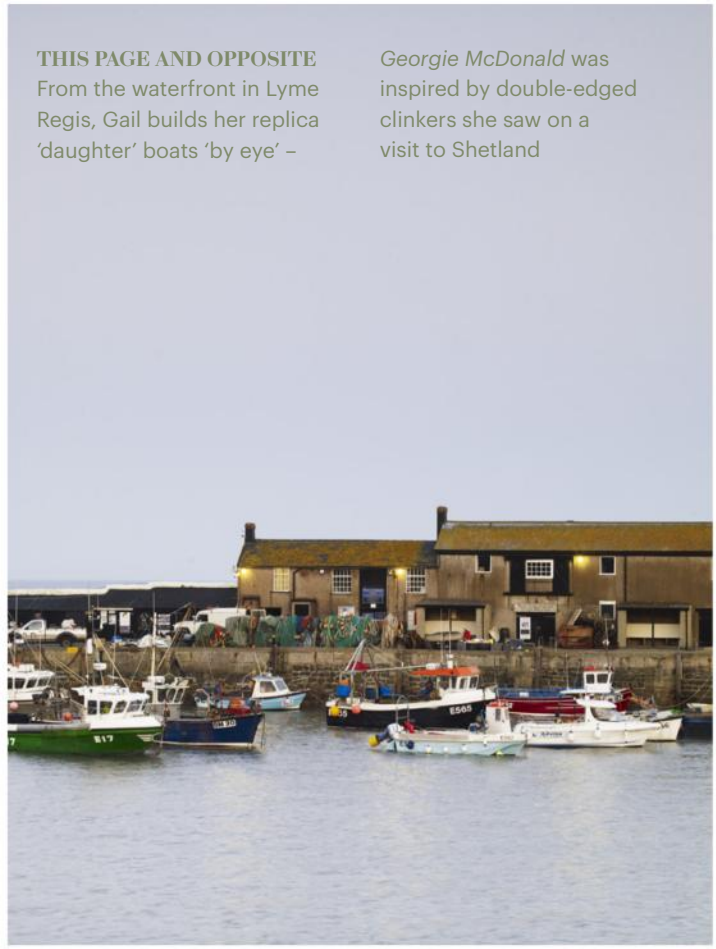
Past meets present

On the Dorset coast, traditional boatbuilder Gail McGarva is breathing new life into a fascinating but threatened craft

WORDS BY **RUTH CHANDLER**
PHOTOGRAPHS BY
ANDREW MONTGOMERY







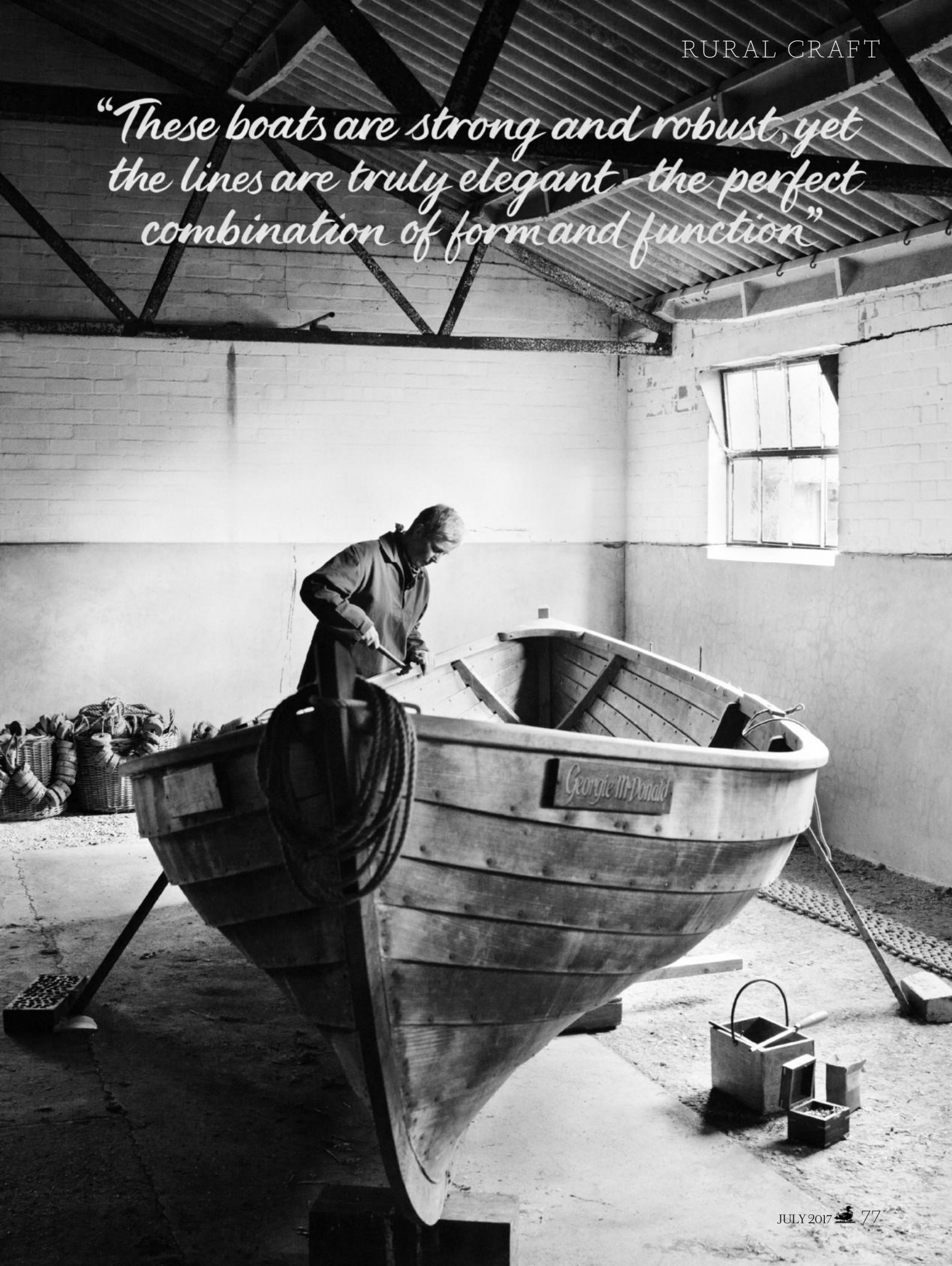
THIS PAGE AND OPPOSITE From the waterfront in Lyme Regis, Gail builds her replica 'daughter' boats 'by eye' – *Georgie McDonald* was inspired by double-edged clinkers she saw on a visit to Shetland

Long and slender with the subtlest of curves, hers is a beguiling shape. Quick yet graceful, she slips through the water, which glints in the hot July sun, with an unparalleled finesse. It's a captivating performance – so much so that even the landlubbers in the crowd on Town Beach feel compelled to watch her progress. But the person observing her most attentively is Gail McGarva, who is standing in a pair of waders, having just helped launch the vessel. Named *Black Ven*, the boat is a 32-foot traditional Cornish pilot gig, which Gail, a boatbuilder based here in the Dorset town of Lyme Regis, has created mostly with old hand tools and a passion for breathing new life into this once-endangered type of water vessel. "These working boats are strong and robust, yet the lines are truly elegant," she says, with a wide smile. "The perfect combination of form and function."

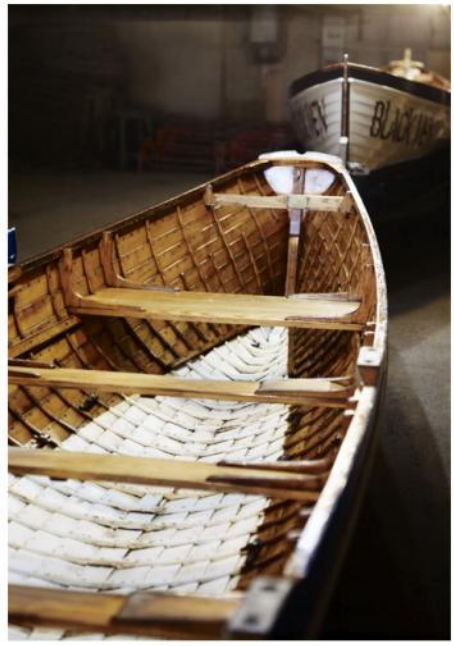
In the boathouse – a long narrow white shed on Monmouth Beach, a pebbly stretch away from the holiday crowds – Gail applies a coat of oil to another of her creations named *Rebel*, the aroma of linseed mingling with the shed's salty scent. Like *Black Ven* and her other sister *Tempest*, she is also a pilot gig, a craft that had its heyday in the 1800s when it was used to transport an expert in the local waters to any ship that needed help navigating its way into a harbour. Due to the competition between communities for this work, each of these vessels, propelled by six oarsmen, became lighter and faster in order to win business, hence her modern-day racing prowess. Gail runs the brush over a thwart, or seat, and points out the beautiful grain of the interior's principal timber. Created in elm, it features marks that resemble the shape of a cat's paw pads here, the form of a flame there. But her boats are far from museum pieces: "I prefer the term 'daughter', because they are similar to the original, yet each has a life force all of her own."

To hear Gail talk about her trade, you'd think she had come from a long line of mariners, but it wasn't until the former British sign-language interpreter lived in a houseboat in Bristol Docks that her love of watercraft took hold. "I went on a journey to the source of the Thames to work out what I might do with this new passion," she says. When she returned and heard about the Lyme Regis Boat Building Academy, her new vocation revealed itself. "As soon as I walked through the doors, I knew this was what I wanted to do," Gail says. There, in 2004-5, she embarked on a nine-month City & Guilds course and fell in love with the construction of clinkers: vessels with lapped planking. With just a handful of gig builders working at the time, she was joining a threatened profession, a fact that only encouraged her.

Seized by her new ardour, after her training Gail set out to gather knowledge and skills from experienced traditional boatbuilders – something that took her all over the British Isles. These men were, to her delight, only too glad to support a female novice. Two of her mentors were Ralph Bird, who helped revive the popularity of the Cornish pilot gig, which had lost out to motorised crafts in the 1920s, and Willie Mouat on Unst, Shetland, who had conserved the 'Gardie' boat from 1882, a double-ended clinker indigenous to the islands. It was the 'Gardie' that inspired Gail to make the first of many 'daughters' by eye (without the use of designer drawings or construction plans), returning to Lyme with hundreds of measurements, photographs and pocketfuls of Shetland copper nails for extra integrity. Not satisfied with the feat of producing a replica, eight


"These boats are strong and robust, yet the lines are truly elegant - the perfect combination of form and function"
Georgie McDonald






months later she returned to the remote island to launch her vessel from the same slipway the original had first entered the water 120 years previously and named her *Georgie McDonald*, a combination of her Scottish grandmothers' names.

Today, after oiling *Rebel*, Gail carries out some maintenance work on *Georgie*, replacing rivets with the time-honoured 'dolly' and 'rove' tools. Typical of traditional boat-building methods, it is a labour-intensive technique involving ten separate stages, and there are several thousand such fixings to make. "This craft is about problem-solving, patience and accuracy," Gail says. There is nothing fast about her line of work, with most new-builds taking around nine months. For her, just as important as the construction process and crafts is the culture of the community that created them: "Every vessel has a story to tell about its role and the nature of its seas." This interest has given rise to her latest venture: The Story Boat, a tiny mobile oral-history recording studio made out of *Vera*, built in 1923 and one of the last surviving lerrets, fishing crafts particular to Chesil Beach. Rather than traversing the waves, the vessel will be upturned and become the roof for the Story Boat, fitted to a bespoke wagon with wheels created by wheelwright Mike Rowland. An unusual project for both, Gail and Mike are relishing working together, sharing skills and challenges: "I'm used to worrying about the sea coming up through the hull, while Mike is concerned with the water-tightness of the roof." Once finished later this summer, it will be a place where locals can come and share their experiences and memories of the boats in the area – these will then be recorded to be listened to by visitors. Ultimately, Gail hopes to combine them into a performance piece.

It isn't only the maritime communities of the past that Gail is interested in, however. In 2007, while working as an assistant

Cornish pilot gigs *Black Ven* and *Tempest* have been crafted using elm and authentic copper nails. Gail always uses traditional tools to ensure integrity throughout the build. Each vessel is designed and painstakingly constructed to move as swiftly through the water as possible



tetrad

Harris Tweed

FOR THE FULL TETRAD EXPERIENCE PLEASE CONTACT OUR PREMIER STOCKISTS LISTED BELOW

Aberdeen Archibalds • **Aberdeen** Sterling Furniture • **Abingdon** Lee Longlands • **Accrington** Taskers of Accrington • **Banbury** Bennetts • **Banchory** Taylors • **Bangor** Caprice • **Barnstaple** Padfields • **Barrow-in-Furness** Stollers • **Bath** TR Hayes • **Battersea, London** Barker & Stonehouse • **Birmingham** Lee Longlands • **Bo'ness** Belgica • **Boston** Sack Store • **Brighouse** Websters Furniture • **Broughty Ferry** Gillies • **Carlisle** Vaseys • **Chesterfield** Brampton House Furnishers • **Clitheroe** Shackletons Home & Garden • **Colchester** Hatfields • **Crickhowell, Wales** Webbs of Crickhowell • **Darlington** Barker & Stonehouse • **Dartford** Farningham Oak • **Derby** Lee Longlands • **Doncaster** Ward Brothers • **Dundee** Sterling • **Dunfermline** Thomsons World of Furniture • **Dumfries** Barbours • **Edinburgh** Martin & Frost • **Elgin** Anderson & England • **Exeter** Stoneman & Bowker • **Falmouth** Richard Cook • **Fulham, London** Darlings of Chelsea • **Gateshead** Barker & Stonehouse • **Glasgow** Forrest Furnishing • **Glasgow** Sterling Furniture • **Gorseinon, Swansea** Arthur Llewellyn Jenkins • **Grantham** Oldrids • **Grimsby** AW Robinson Furniture • **Guernsey** Scope Furnishing • **Hawick** Chrysties • **Hedge End** Bradbeers • **Hinckley** Paul Edwards Interiors • **Holt** Bakers and Larners • **Hull** Barker & Stonehouse • **Inverness** Ogilvies • **Inverness** Sterling Furniture • **Inverurie** Andersons • **Isle of Wight** Bayliss & Booth • **Kilmarnock** Tannahills • **Kingsbridge** Peter Betteridge • **Knaresborough** Barker & Stonehouse • **Leamington Spa** Whartons • **Leeds** Barker & Stonehouse • **Lincoln** GH Shaw • **Liverpool** Taskers - Aintree • **Llanidloes, Mid Wales** Hafren Furnishers • **Llantrisant, Cardiff** Arthur Llewellyn Jenkins • **Macclesfield** Arighi Bianchi • **Malvern** Rhubarb Home • **Market Harborough** Furniture Loft • **Milton Keynes** Morgan Gilder • **Montrose** Buicks • **Morecambe** LPC Furniture • **Nelson** Pendle Village Mill • **Newcastle** Barker & Stonehouse • **Newton Abbot** Prestige Furniture • **Northamptonshire, Heart of the Shires** Texture Interiors • **Norwich** Jarrolds • **Nottingham** Barker & Stonehouse • **Oban** Mathesons • **Perth** Gillies • **Rainham** G Lukehurst • **Ringwood** Furlong Furniture • **Salisbury** Mylor & Mawes • **Sheffield** Ponsford • **Sherborne** Dodge Interiors • **Shrewsbury** Alan Ward • **Solihull** Whartons • **Southsea** Design House • **St Albans** Darlings of Chelsea • **Stamford** Stamford Garden Centre • **Teeside** Barker & Stonehouse • **Tillicoultry** Sterling Furniture • **Tunbridge Wells** Darlings of Chelsea • **Tunbridge Wells** Hoopers • **Upminster** Roomes Furniture & Interiors • **Waltham Cross** Fishpools • **Winchester** Design House • **Windsor** WJ Daniels • **Yeovil** The Old Creamery • **York** Browns

www.tetrad.co.uk







"It's essential that communities feel a connection to the boats I make"



Gail often ties lucky hag stones to the timbers to wish the vessel safe passage at sea (above left); she is working with renowned wheelwright Mike Rowland on a new boat project using tools such as a spokeshave (above right)

instructor at the Boat Building Academy, the Lyme Regis Gig Club was formed and commissioned the Academy, with Gail as project leader, to build them a gig, based on the boat *Treffry* from 1838: "I had to think hard about whether I could take on such a big project and it was only when Ralph Bird offered to mentor me that I felt it was possible." Now, with a further two gigs and a skiff for the over-eights to use, around 200 members are rowing and racing throughout the year. Gail relishes the fact that her boats are part of the town's life. She sees it as a two-way process, operating an open-door policy at her workshop, so people can also become involved with the craft's construction.

During the building of a Cornish pilot gig, once the 'whale ship', or ribcage, is finished, Gail holds a fortnight-long 'Knees Up' event. During this, anyone – rower or otherwise – can come along and make one of its 42 'knees' (the right-angled brackets that help strengthen a boat), which is then marked with their name or a message of their choice and fitted into the hull, forming an unshakeable bond between Lyme's residents and their vessels. "It's essential that communities feel a connection to the boats I make, right from the first plank, and foster custodianship, so they take good care of them and continue the sport of gig racing." With an ambassador like Gail at the helm, traditional boatbuilding is sure to have a safe passage.

For more about Gail's work, visit wbta.co.uk/gail-mcgarva. The Story Boat is supported by Arts Council England and will be in residence at the Marine Theatre, Lyme Regis, Dorset (marinetheatre.com) until September.



TOM HOWLEY

EXQUISITE BESPOKE KITCHENS

tomhowley.co.uk **call 0161 848 1200 for a free brochure.** CODE K-CL17

LONDON W1 CHELSEA ALDERLEY EDGE ALTRINCHAM BEACONSFIELD BRENTWOOD
BRISTOL ESHER GUILDFORD HARROGATE LEAMINGTON SPA TUNBRIDGE WELLS

For when your heart is in the country

Subscribe to the digital edition of Country Living magazine and escape into an appealing world of rural beauty and tranquillity. You'll find a wealth of ideas for your home and garden, learn about traditional crafts, discover inspiring rural businesses and enjoy irresistible recipes using seasonal produce.



Available on the App Store

SUBSCRIBE NOW ON THE APPLE NEWSSTAND

GREAT REASONS TO GET DIGITAL!



Now you can enjoy your favourite magazine wherever and whenever you want. With our digital editions, you can stay up to date even when you are on the move! Go digital today and benefit from:

- **Searchable** content across all your downloaded issues
- **Choice** of viewing mode to make reading as easy as possible
- **Instant** access to the latest issue even when you're away from home
- **Interactive** content with live links to websites, emails and phone numbers

Now on EVEN more devices!

Available on the App Store | GET THE MAGAZINE ON Google play | amazon apps Available on kindle fire | nook | zinio™ | kobo

All together now

The beautiful coastal village of Mawgan Porth in north Cornwall is home to a long-standing community determined to stay true to its roots

WORDS BY **ALI HEATH** ● PHOTOGRAPHS BY **ALUN CALLENDER**



THIS PAGE Pete Abell (centre), owner of Kingsurf Surf School, with fellow instructors Leigh, Archie, Kerian and Ryan

OPPOSITE A view of Mawgan Porth beach from boutique hotel The Scarlet, which is owned and run by three local sisters

From the start of spring to the end of autumn, Mawgan Porth welcomes a steady stream of tourists. Many of them return year after year, lured by sweeping sands and clear blue waters. For those looking for an escape from the hectic pace of modern life, this shoreline haven is the perfect retreat and is regarded by many as one of Cornwall's best-kept secrets. However, while the dune-backed secluded beach and craggy hillside that surrounds it play a large part in Mawgan Porth's appeal, it's the presence of the long-standing Cornish community who live there that sets it apart. As local resident Mike Farmer, who has worked and farmed in the St Mawgan parish for more than 60 years, says, "Locals stay here and holidaymakers come back because of the unspoilt beach but also because of the community feel and eccentric characters – it's what makes it so special."

Cornwall's dramatic beauty has not gone unnoticed, and the area's popularity as a holiday destination continues to rise. As a result, many of the county's towns and villages have provided services that fit the demand. There's a plethora of award-winning Michelin-starred restaurants and other eateries, countless beautiful holiday cottages and hotel rooms available and many other amenities designed to cater for visitors' needs. While all of this guarantees a memorable getaway, it also raises questions about the impact such changes have on the communities that live in the area all year round. It is precisely because of this that the residents of Mawgan Porth have joined



together, working hard to make sure their village retains its character and distinctiveness. Pete Abell, who owns the surf school, Kingsurf, is a key player in ensuring this is achieved: "We are all here for the same reasons – the beach, the small companies, the community spirit and the unspoilt Cornish landscape."

Along with Kingsurf, Mawgan Porth is home to a variety of other shops, hotels and restaurants – from Merrymoor Inn, a B&B that was last purchased in 1961 and is now run by the original owner's grandson, to Betty's News and Beach Shop, which has been open since 1959. "Tourists are attracted by the old-fashioned Cornish feel – the shops in a row set back from the beach have retained their exterior charm, but inside they have moved into the 21st century with modern-day interiors, products and services," says Betty's owner Stuart Kirk.

In keeping with this, far from rejecting change, the residents of Mawgan Porth are forward-thinking in their approach, opting for sustainable improvements rather than larger-scale development. The village's attitude towards preserving the essence of what makes it special isn't formalised or regulated by a designated committee, but instead comes from the community pulling together. "Local people are content and not driven by money. This makes working together so much easier and more enjoyable. The value of friendship here is vital, and we meet regularly to organise charity fundraising events and join forces when the status quo is jeopardised," Pete says.

THIS PAGE The sandy beach, which is hugely popular with surfers, is backed by dunes and flanked at either end by striking cliff faces and rolling hills **OPPOSITE** Mawgan Porth is home to a plethora of local creatives and characters, and independent businesses are thriving: visitors and residents can take painting and drawing lessons on the shoreline with Art At The Beach and enjoy a wood-fired pizza from Tim Pither's self-built oven

The power of the community collaborating in this way was demonstrated following a tragic surfing accident in 2014, during which three adults drowned in a rip current. "For budgetary reasons the RNLI doesn't man our beaches after September," Pete says. "So we raised enough funding for them to train us and they now insure us to act on their behalf over October half-term." With beach safety key, Kingsurf also runs weekly surf lessons for local children each Tuesday that cost just £5 – this is a non-profit exercise and helps unite and educate from a young age.

In addition to Kingsurf's life-saving initiative, locals have also joined forces to protect amenities, as well as doing their bit for the environment. When the council threatened to close the

"Local people are content and not driven by money, so working together is easier"




HIGH TIDE
12:36
LOW TIDE
19:15



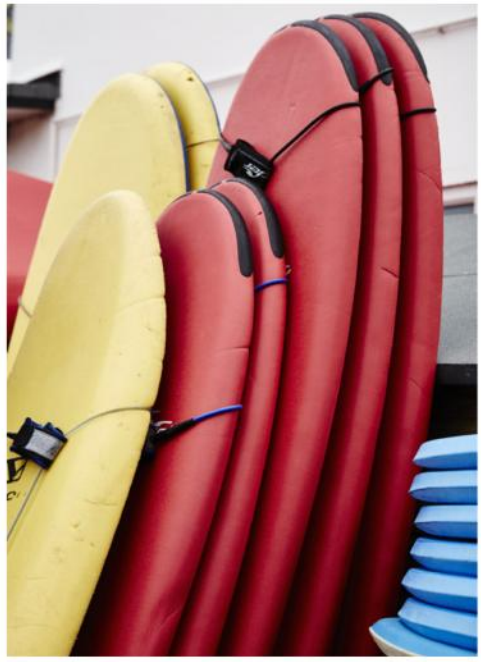





SURF SHOP
Married
TO THE
Sea
SURF HIRE


art
at the beach






CAR
PARK
£4.00



'Curly' Steve, Ben, Jonny and Elaine from Married To The Sea – the local surf clothing brand has a popular shop and clothes-printing business opposite the beach

beachfront toilets due to government cuts, residents formed the Mawgan Porth Business Group to discuss ideas of how they might be saved. "With tight council budgets, the local businesses contribute to cleaning the beach and its facilities. One of the people responsible is Mike Farmer, who has become a bit of a legend!" Pete says.

Mike, who has lived in Mawgan Porth all his life, understands the allure of his home: "Holidaymakers return because of all we have to offer. They want to escape overpriced, overdeveloped destinations. No one here is against change or modest development, but we want to make sure it's in keeping with the character and feel of the place." As co-owners of the central car park, Mike and Andrew Prose have a lucrative business opportunity at their disposal, but profiteering goes against the ethos that they and so many of the locals hold dear. "You can park all day for £4," Andrew says. "We will never sell our land to developers – it would finish Mawgan Porth." Mike agrees wholeheartedly: "If we all sell out, it will become a built-up place that has lost its charm."

The community is right to be wary of developers – in recent years a number of planning applications have been submitted, including schemes to convert a section of beachfront shops into a larger complex. Although efforts to build have so far been thwarted, investors remain keen for a stake in this prime location. A more recent attempt by developers to purchase the building that houses 58-year-old Betty's required drastic intervention,

TePe®



It can light up a room. Make someone's day. And express your deepest feelings. So take care of your smile with TePe Interdental Brushes. **They clean up to 40% more than normal toothbrushing.** No wonder 94% of dental hygienists recommend them.*

*Source: A survey of dental hygienists in the UK, Eaton et al. (2012).

Find out how TePeing can help maintain a healthy smile at **TePe.co.uk**







"Tourists are attracted by Mawgan Porth's old-fashioned Cornish feel"

and Pete and his late father Nigel Abell found themselves stepping in to buy it themselves, ensuring it remains in the hands of local people rather than being transformed beyond recognition.

It is this willingness to defend their way of life that defines this tight-knit community. "I love that Mawgan Porth has survived in a bit of a bubble – we are all very proud of our community," says Tim Pither, owner of wood-fired pizza pop-up, Tredragon Pizza. "We all promote and help each other out. Lots of us do a variety of jobs in the off-season to survive, but we are adamant that we don't want our local businesses to be driven out by developers that have no vested interest here." 'Curly' Steve, operations manager at surf shop Married to the Sea, echoes this sentiment: "We're a happy, social and welcoming village, but if our future survival is threatened, we all understand how important it is to stand up and be counted – we have to work together to make sure our voices are heard."

While the residents of Mawgan Porth understand that their village will always attract attention, they remain unwavering in their resolve to defend its uniqueness – the characteristics that make it a place like no other. "There will always be opportunistic attempts but together we can protect the balance. Money is always behind large-scale developments, but most locals are happy to get by without selling out," says Pete reflectively. "We live in such a beautiful part of the world, where all the elements come together. Work facilitates a lifestyle that is priceless and we're just trying to protect this for future generations."

The beach, a haven of tranquillity at the beginning and end of each day, is kept clean by Mike Farmer (top right). The Atlantic breakers make for magnificent surfing, under the watchful eye of RNLI lifeguards in peak season

NEVILLE JOHNSON

HANDCRAFTED BESPOKE FURNITURE



FREE 100 Page Brochure

British Design & Craftsmanship

Nationwide Design Service

10 Year Guarantee

24 MONTHS INTEREST FREE CREDIT**

You can now enjoy SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS IN OUR SUMMER SALE.* When you choose Neville Johnson you're investing in high quality bespoke furniture, attention to detail and superb customer service. For over 30 years we've been using the finest materials and craftsmanship to create exquisite furniture with longevity and style, so you can sit back and relax, in the comfort of your own home.

visit nevillejohnson.co.uk

or call 0161 873 8333 for our latest brochure

QUOTE CODE CLA20

STUDIES **BEDROOMS** **LOUNGES** **LIBRARIES** **STAIRCASES**

*To qualify for your sale discount you must place your order between 01/06/17 and 31/07/17. Minimum order value £3,000 +VAT. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

**24 months interest free credit is available on orders over £3,000 +VAT, with an upfront 30% deposit. Finance is subject to status, terms apply.



Explore LUNDY

Leave modern life far behind and escape to this rocky outcrop, where a spectacular range of flora and fauna flourishes amid the dramatic scenery

WORDS BY SUSY SMITH













TWELVE MILES OFF THE COAST OF NORTH DEVON, where the Atlantic Ocean meets the Bristol Channel, a unique granite rock formation rises 400 feet from the sea. The 200 shipwrecks that litter the seabed around its coastline are testament to the fact that this has always been a wild place, a world apart from the mainland and occupied in turn by pirates, fugitives and the forces of law and order. Now owned by the National Trust and managed by The Landmark Trust (landmarktrust.co.uk), it attracts a different class of people. This is the island of Lundy, a place of spectacular natural beauty where no roads, no cars, no streetlights, no TV, no internet and virtually no mobile signal make it the perfect place to get away from it all.

Its name originates from the old Norse, meaning Puffin (Lund) Island (-ey), and it is the breeding colonies of these charismatic seabirds, along with several other species, including guillemots, razorbills and Manx shearwaters that appeal to many visitors. Lundy is also popular with divers, plant enthusiasts, archaeologists, geologists, climbers, bell-ringers and bird-ringers. However, despite all it offers, the beauty of the island is that it never feels overrun – even at its busiest times fellow visitors will appear as distant figures in a windswept landscape, only to be encountered again, if at all, in the tavern of an evening.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

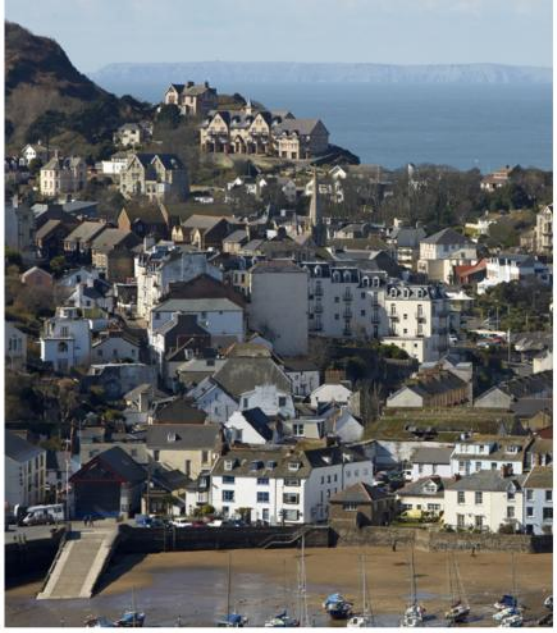
The island is just three miles long and half a mile wide and has been inhabited since prehistoric times, as traces of Bronze- and Iron-Age settlements show. Following the Norman conquest, the Mariscos family held the island for around a century, after which it spent time in the hands of the Crown, as well as various private individuals. Each left their mark with buildings that, remarkably, have withstood the buffeting of North Atlantic weather for hundreds of years – these include the castle, an imposing, crenelated structure built in the 13th century, a Georgian mansion and a granite quarry dating back to the Victorian era. Even Martin Coles Harman – the most recent owner of the island before it passed to the National Trust and The Landmark Trust in 1968 – left his own legacy in the form of herds of deer, Soay sheep and ponies that wander freely there to this day.

IN THE AIR AND BENEATH THE WAVES

Lundy also has a vast and varied transient avian population, with many migrant birds using it as a welcome stopover during lengthy journeys

OPPOSITE Rugged cliffs create a dramatic rocky coastline on the exposed west side of the island **THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT** Lundy's breeding colonies of puffins are a major attraction; an aerial view of the island; guillemots; the old castle; visitors can stay at elegant Millcombe House on the island's southern tip









Just three miles long and half a mile wide, Lundy has been inhabited since prehistoric times



and, as a result, there are regular sightings of rare and unusual species. Bring your binoculars and record your findings in the Lundy Field Society log book. You can also observe volunteers from The Society, in collaboration with the BTO, using 'mist' nets set between vertical poles to catch birds in order to ring them for research and conservation purposes.

Lundy lies across one of Britain's busiest shipping routes and ten of the sunken ships around its diminutive shores are recognised dive sights. Washed by the Gulf Stream, it also has some of the richest marine life to be found outside the tropics. As many as 2,500 creatures can be counted in a single square metre of seabed and it is the only place where all five types of British cup coral grow. Above the water, a thriving colony of grey seals can often be seen watching divers with black-eyed curiosity. An attraction themselves, during the warmer months seal safaris provide the opportunity for passengers to get up close to, and even swim with, these characterful mammals.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

For many potential visitors, just the logistics of travelling to and staying on such a unique location are a source of intrigue. The reality doesn't disappoint: in keeping with a place that makes you feel like a castaway (and, indeed, housed a few in years gone by), transport to the mainland is only available on certain days of the week known as 'boat days' – and, even then, it's weather permitting. Intrepid voyagers are picked up from ports on the Devon coast and transported across the Bristol Channel on a 1950s passenger ferry.

Once on Lundy, you can stay in one of the 23 self-catering properties, which are carefully maintained by The Landmark Trust and include a lighthouse, a fisherman's chalet, the old school and a pigsty. Life on the island centres around

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT The island ship *MS Oldenburg* dates back to the 1950s; Ilfracombe, in north Devon, is one of the ports from which passengers are collected; a colony of grey seals thrives on Lundy; warmed by the Gulf Stream, the waters around the island are home to a rich mix of marine life, including the rare colourful sunset cup coral













the village with its farm buildings and livestock, shop, pub and reception where you check in on arrival. Some of the accommodation can also be found here, or is within easy striking distance, but others are much further away and negotiating your walk to them after dark can be an interesting experience. Whatever you do, don't venture out at night without a torch, when the island generator is turned off between midnight and dawn. Inky darkness descends and while this means that the starry skies are some of the best in Britain, there also are plenty of places where you could lose your footing.

A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Lundy is inhabited all year round by the 27 islanders that make up The Landmark Trust team. Each juggles a number of roles, from the general manager who is also the fire chief to the barman who doubles as resident wildlife expert. Several are couples who have met through working together in this close-knit community and all exude a cheerfulness and friendly approach, which suggests that this simple style of island living doesn't lose its charm over time.

The Marisco Tavern, the island's only eatery, is where everyone congregates. The atmosphere is lively and friendly and you can drop in to dine on island produce, including Lundy gammon and venison, order a packed lunch or enjoy some homemade cake while finding out what activities are planned. You can also chat with islanders, check weather forecasts and tide

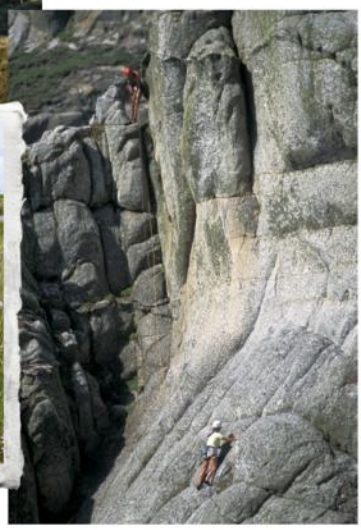
THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Old Light stands on the island's highest point; defensive ruins at the Battery; Tibbetts offers a unique place to stay; St Helena's church and the government house; guests at Old Light enjoy great sunset views; the Marisco Tavern serves fresh island produce





Stand on the plateau and you may witness completely different weather on either side of the isle







times or make an entry in the Field Society and marine logs. Shelves are stocked with reference books that help with identifying local flora and fauna alongside various board games, which provide the perfect distraction if the weather closes in. Mobile phones are banned and you are liable to be fined if your mobile makes any noise whatsoever!

EXPLORING BY FOOT

The wardens on the island are a great source of information and offer guided walks, rockpool rambles and snorkel safaris, plus talks in the tavern to help you discover all aspects of Lundy life. If you choose to set off alone, you can walk the Lundy Letterbox trail where a set of clues is followed, treasure-hunt style – this takes you all over the island, including some areas off the beaten track that you might not otherwise visit.

Walking on Lundy allows you to discover the diversity of the island landscape, from the grassy slopes of the east side, where wild flowers flourish and deer graze, to the majestic 400ft Atlantic cliffs, where nesting seabirds congregate in Jenny's Cove and climbers come to tackle the Devil's Slide, the longest granite slab in Britain. Stand in the middle of the plateau and you may witness two entirely different types of weather on either side of the half-mile-wide isle.

The main track from the village takes you across the island plateau, past the lake and marshland at Pondsbury and on to the rocky, heather-covered peaty ground at the North End, where the remains of Bronze-Age settlements are found. On the way, you might encounter wild ponies and goats. As you walk, the ever-present wheatears will flit ahead of you from perch to perch as if leading the way and, in summer, skylarks will rise from around your feet, breaking into song as they climb higher and higher into the skies above.

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT Atlantic waves crash onto the rocks at Jenny's Cove, home to hundreds of nesting seabirds; Sika deer were introduced to the island by its owner in the 1920s; the remote rugged beauty of North End; popular with climbers, the Devil's Slide is the longest granite slab in Britain; the lake and marshland at Pondsbury provide an ideal habitat for wild fauna and flora, including the pale mauve heath spotted orchid

HILLARYS

You'll love what we do

BLINDS | CURTAINS | SHUTTERS | CARPETS



As the made-to-measure experts, we've been helping people make their homes even more beautiful for over 45 years. With our unique in-home service we'll bring the samples to you, so you can choose your new window dressings or flooring in the comfort of your own home. We take care of all the measuring and fitting too. It's why you'll love what we do.

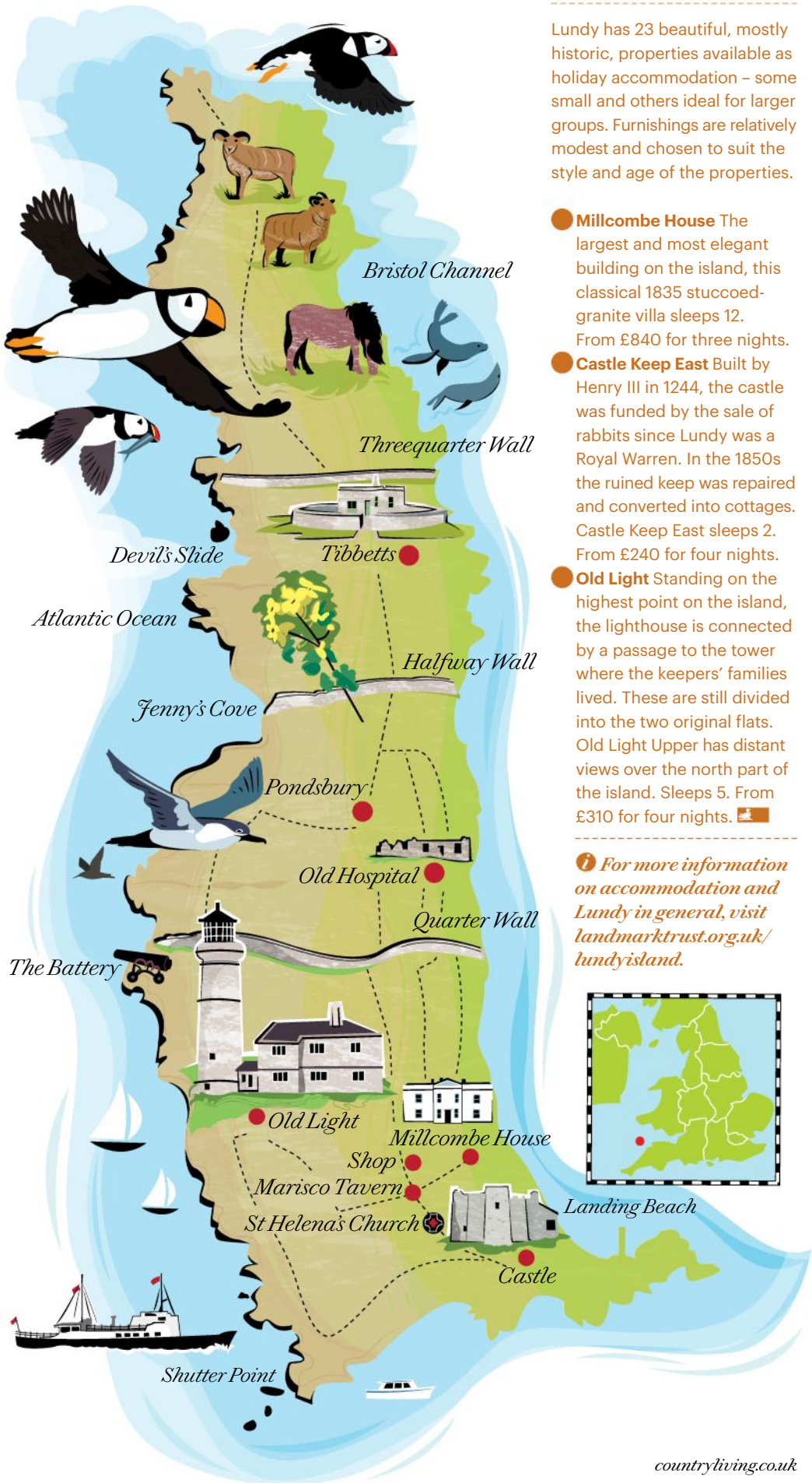
TO BOOK YOUR FREE HOME APPOINTMENT
CALL **0800 587 6480** OR VISIT **hillarys.co.uk**

LIVING LANDSCAPE

Relative to its size, Lundy offers a wealth of habitats and unusual wildlife. The rugged cliffs of the Atlantic west coast are home to maritime grass species and important seabird colonies, including puffins and Manx shearwaters. In contrast, the relatively sheltered east coast supports spectacular wild flowers including the unique Lundy cabbage. More than 300 species of lichen and 500 different fungi thrive in the unpolluted air, and the island plateau provides breeding sites for water rails, meadow pipits, skylarks and wheatears, while oystercatchers breed on the coastal fringes. Aside from its farm animals, Lundy supports wild ponies, Soay sheep, feral goats and Sika deer, all introduced by Martin Coles Harman in the 1920s, and the elusive native pygmy shrew. Seals breed on the coast and basking sharks visit in summer. Below the waves, rare and beautiful species thrive in reef and sandbank habitats. The majority of Lundy is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and the seas around it are protected as a Marine Conservation Zone.

GETTING THERE

The island ship ***MS Oldenburg*** departs from either **Bideford** or **Ilfracombe** during the summer season (end of March to end of October). Return tickets cost £65 for adults, £33 for children. Dating from 1958, the graceful *Oldenburg* has wood panelling in its comfortable saloons, and plenty of room on deck for fair-weather crossings. In winter (from November to March), a **helicopter service** operates from **Hartland Point**: £116 for adults, £62 for children.



PLACES TO STAY

Lundy has 23 beautiful, mostly historic, properties available as holiday accommodation – some small and others ideal for larger groups. Furnishings are relatively modest and chosen to suit the style and age of the properties.

- **Millcombe House** The largest and most elegant building on the island, this classical 1835 stuccoed-granite villa sleeps 12. From £840 for three nights.
- **Castle Keep East** Built by Henry III in 1244, the castle was funded by the sale of rabbits since Lundy was a Royal Warren. In the 1850s the ruined keep was repaired and converted into cottages. Castle Keep East sleeps 2. From £240 for four nights.
- **Old Light** Standing on the highest point on the island, the lighthouse is connected by a passage to the tower where the keepers' families lived. These are still divided into the two original flats. Old Light Upper has distant views over the north part of the island. Sleeps 5. From £310 for four nights.

For more information on accommodation and Lundy in general, visit landmarktrust.org.uk/lundyisland.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALAMY; GETTY IMAGES. ILLUSTRATION BY JOANNA KERR. HAND-LETTERING BY RUTH ROWLAND

"THE BEST-LOOKING AND BEST-DANCED MUSICAL IN LONDON."

Mark Shenton, THE STAGE

★★★★★

"FULL OF DANCE, ROMANCE AND GLORIOUS GERSHWIN. This richly satisfying show is delivered with heart and flair."

David Jays, THE SUNDAY TIMES

★★★★★ A RECORD-SETTING 28 FIVE-STAR REVIEWS!

An American in Paris

A New Musical





BOOK NOW! 0845 200 7982*
AnAmericanInParisTheMusical.co.uk*

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS
Music and Lyrics by GEORGE GERSHWIN and IRA GERSHWIN
Book by CRAIG LUCAS
Directed and Choreographed by CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON

DOMINION THEATRE

*Calls cost 2p per min. plus the network access charge. Phone & online sales subject to booking fees. No booking fee in person at the Box Office.



Not all driveways are created equal.

Marshalls uses the finest materials and accredited installers to create driveways that truly stand out from the crowd. **That's why 99%* of our customers would recommend our products and installers.**

Visit **marshalls.co.uk/createdequal** or search **'created equal'** to take a step closer to your dream driveway.

Marshalls

Creating Better Spaces

*Post-installation feedback from 2,070 respondents up to October 2016.



GLASS HOUSE

Hartley Botanic's bespoke aluminium greenhouses have been designed and made in Lancashire since Mr Vincent Hartley founded the company in 1938. Now their durability and quality have been acknowledged with the range receiving the endorsement of the RHS. The various models, including the Opus (left), are very covetable, from a tiny self-assembly patio glasshouse to traditional and contemporary designs that can be as large as you have the space/budget for. Handmade to order, all structures are priced individually (01457 819155; hartley-botanic.co.uk).



UNDER COVER

When critters are making a play for a particularly precious fruit and veg plant, and appear to be harvesting more than you are, it's time to take action. This coiled steel-wire cloche has been designed with narrower gaps between the bars than most designs, making it harder for beaks and paws – as well as moths and butterflies – to sneak through. It measures 30cm high by 29cm across (with 4mm gaps), has an antique pewter finish and costs £25.99 from Crocus (01344 578111; crocus.co.uk).

garden notes





Everything you need to know to get the most from your plot in July

WORDS BY **PAULA McWATERS**

LAST JULY AND AUGUST, Kew Gardens recorded its highest-ever visitor numbers, due, in no small part, to the unveiling of the then newly planted Great Broad Walk borders. At 320 metres, they are the longest double herbaceous borders in the world and I was privileged to walk them with their creator Richard Wilford, Kew's manager of garden design. He was full of stories of the trials and tribulations of installing them. Like all new garden projects, they were not without their setbacks, but I thought the end result was ravishing and shall be heading there this month to see how they have come on, a year later.

One encouraging factor for home gardeners working on a more modest scale is that most of the plants Richard used went in from 9cm pots in spring and the previous October, yet they were already making a real impact in their first summer. "Tons of manure" was one of the secrets to getting this lush growth underway so quickly.

The planting is done in big, bold swathes and I was very taken with *Kniphophia* 'Tawny King' (above left), a subtler brand of red-hot poker than the ones I grow. The stems are a dark bronze and the poker flower heads start from apricot buds, opening to a warm cream. For more information about the borders, see kew.org.'



WHAT TO DO

Water tomatoes in the morning – wet foliage in the evening encourages tomato blight

Harvest edible borage and marigold flowers to use in drinks and salads

Sow autumn and winter salads

Divide clumps of overcrowded bearded iris to reinvigorate them

Pick lavender early on a fine morning after the dew has dried to capture the best scent

Lift and dry autumn-sown shallots and garlic

Cut back chives, marjoram and fennel to stimulate fresh young growth

Pinch out the tops of climbing beans to encourage lower side shoots

Trim holly, yew and conifer hedges

Layer garden pinks by pegging stems into the ground



Tip Give your houseplants a boost by leaving them outside in dappled shade to catch drops of soft summer rain

Spray away

The long-reach nozzle, combined with pump action and locking trigger that allow for continuous use even when turned upside down, make Hozelock's new Pure 2-litre garden pressure sprayer a handy asset. Designed for homemade solutions, such as organic liquid manure feeds, its seals and flexible silicone pipe are resistant to corrosion, even from acidic liquids such as white vinegar. A graduated measure makes it easy to see how much you're using. Priced £18 from garden centres (hozelock.com).



Out & about

There are always lovely things to see at Parham House and Gardens on the South Downs in West Sussex, including acres of burgeoning flower borders in the walled garden and an immaculately kept glasshouse filled with colour. On Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 July, Parham will be holding its 24th annual Garden Weekend with a festival of all things horticultural, including tours, talks and demonstrations featuring guest speakers such as Jinny Blom, Sarah Raven and the nation's favourite allotment judge Jim Buttress. For more details, call 01903 742021 or visit parhaminsussex.co.uk.



SCANDI CHARM

This Swedish combi bird feeder is a step up in style from most. Made of powder-coated steel with a wire mesh insert and a roof that unscrews for cleaning, it can be filled with nut mixes or suet balls to tempt feathered friends into your garden. Measuring 28cm high by 12cm across, it is also available in white. Priced £22.95 from Trouva (020 7193 6444; trouva.com).

1 HOUR to make a difference

If time is short, focus on one satisfying task – and the rest of the garden can wait



Plants such as rosemary, lavender and penstemons are putting up strong growth now, so it's a great time to take some semi-ripe cuttings. Do this in the morning (to avoid any wilting), choose strong, non-flowering shoots and trim to 10-15cm, cutting just below a leaf node. Strip off the lower leaves to reduce transpiration and position the cuttings round the edge of a pot filled half-and-half with free-draining potting compost and perlite or sharp sand. Cover with a polythene bag and put them somewhere light but shady and they should root in a few weeks.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANNA LARSON; HENRY MACAULAY. ILLUSTRATIONS BY MARIANNA.IO

EVENT National Meadows Day, 1 July, led by Plantlife – includes barefoot walks, picnics and cycle tours (magnificentmeadows.org.uk).



WESTBURY

GARDEN ROOMS

LONDON

020 7091 9781

westburygardenrooms.com

Call to visit our showrooms:

61 Lambeth Walk,
London, SE11 6DX

46-52 Cutlers Road,
South Woodham Ferrers,
Essex, CM3 5XJ



COASTAL *charm*

Vintage treasures are offset by a stylish pared-back decorating scheme inside an 18th-century fisherman's cottage in East Sussex

WORDS BY **CELIA RUFEY**
PHOTOGRAPHS BY **JODY STEWART**
STYLING BY **BEN KENDRICK**







OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Traditional net huts on Hastings beach; a view over the town's rooftops; fishing boats by the East Cliff
THIS PAGE Bright accessories bring colour to the living area at the front of the cottage. A Habitat deckchair offers a chic outdoor seating alternative





When Linda and Ray Carter began thinking about buying a holiday cottage, they were torn between Devon and Sussex. "We'd always dreamed of having a bolthole by the sea," Linda says, "and in the end we chose Hastings even though it's only half an hour's drive from our home in rural Kent. We're a busy family and, after much agonising, I realised we didn't really have the time to travel to Devon on a regular basis." Unusual as it seemed to some, their choice has turned out even better than they expected. "Though Hastings is so close, it feels completely different," she explains. "The town is quirky and arty, and we love the cafés and antiques shops."

The interior of the two-bedroom, 18th-century fisherman's cottage they bought in 2010 is now the perfect mix of style and simplicity. Set in the Old Town, it is ideal for when they want a short break, and their three adult children love taking turns to stay there as well. Downstairs is open plan with seating at one end and the dining room and kitchen with the bathroom behind at the other. Stairs in the centre lead up to two bedrooms and a box room. The cottage has a neat little front garden with doors opening from the kitchen at the back into a private lane – known as a twitten – that leads round the cottage to the road. Then it is just a few minutes' walk to the centre of the Old Town on the way to the sea.

The cottage had been rented for years and Linda's enduring memory of their early ownership is of pine floorboards, cupboards and wardrobes all radiating an orange glow under layers of aged varnish: "As a weekend bolthole, we didn't need much storage and getting rid of excess furniture instantly made the place feel more spacious. In fact, the cottage gets lots of natural light, which is unusual in this area, as so many houses are stacked up behind each other." Linda and Ray had the walls re-plastered and painted





OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT The pretty courtyard garden is an inviting spot to relax; Linda makes use of an old 'twitten' or alleyway as a shortcut to the shops; the couple collect vintage maps and guides for the area **THIS PAGE** Many of the furnishings were sourced from local junk shops



"Using the same palette throughout creates a natural flow between spaces"

them white along with the windows, while Farrow & Ball's Pigeon was used for other woodwork, floors and stairs. "It was wonderful to get rid of the varnished pine, and have the same palette running throughout," Linda adds. "In a small cottage like this, it creates a natural flow between different spaces." The pared-down decorating scheme provides a contemporary backdrop for a relaxed mix of vintage furnishings, with pale ceramics and glassware offering eye-catching arrangements on grey shelving in the dining room.

Linda can usually recall where she found each piece of furniture and accessory in the cottage – quite a feat as she has been scouring antiques shops, bric-a-brac outlets, car boot fairs and garage sales for more than 20 years. She also buys in France and, with two



OPPOSITE Simple shelving in the dining area keeps tableware accessible while creating a stylish display. A drop-leaf dining table offers a versatile solution that optimises the limited space
THIS PAGE Striking artwork and seasonal blooms provide bold colour in the pale compact kitchen that opens onto a lane

friends, set up The Three French Hens to hold sales three times a year of wonderful vintage furniture, accessories and linens sourced at brocantes. Inevitably, some of these pieces find their way into the cottage: in the tiny kitchen, utensils hang on butchers' hooks from an old French wood-framed wire panel fixed to the wall behind the cooker. The worktop next to the hob was the last bit of varnished pine to be covered over – sanded and then transformed with Farrow & Ball's hardwearing floor paint in dramatic Off-Black.

Beautiful old linens are also part of the mix with striped French linen glass cloths for drying dishes and old French sheets on the beds, paired with a striped duvet cover or quilted coverlet. There are no curtains as Linda felt they would make the cottage look cluttered, so a local joiner made shutters for the south-facing windows at the front, with blinds fitted elsewhere.

Linda felt she knew Hastings well before they bought the cottage, but spending more time there has brought some welcome discoveries. "This is a pedestrian-only area," she says, "so it's quieter than we imagined and quite private. We park the car when we arrive and find we don't get into it again until it's time to go home. We made the decision to have no television or Wi-Fi in the cottage and that's been wonderfully liberating. When I wake up in the morning to the sound of seagulls wheeling overhead, I can't wait to get down to the sea."

Seaside Cottage can be booked at airbnb.co.uk, through bramley.house or by contacting Linda on 07773 460494. For information on The Three French Hens' next sale, visit thethreefrenchhens.co.uk.







OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT Stoneware bottles add decorative detail in the tiny dressing room; vintage finds are displayed on an old row of hooks; the rich tones of antique wooden pieces bring warmth to the pale scheme in the spare room **THIS PAGE** An iron-framed bed paired with crisp linens and a pretty floral quilt create a nostalgic feel



Wild at heart

Perched high above the south Devon coast, Mark Bolton's bright and beautiful garden is a riot of hot colour in summertime

WORDS BY **PAULA McWATERS** ● PHOTOGRAPHS BY **MARK BOLTON**

The Admiralty knew what it was doing when it built the Coastguard Cottages at East Prawle in 1904. Sturdily constructed in brick and stone, the properties are positioned with magnificent, unimpeded 180° views of the sea yet protected by the lee of the hill from all but the wildest of storms in this rugged landscape. Prawle Point, just above them, is the most southerly headland in Devon and has served as a coastguard station and Lloyd's signal station (watching and logging the passing ships for Lloyd's of London) since the 1860s.

With National Trust grassland and the South West Coast Path at the bottom of the garden and rocky coves just beyond, it is easy to see why Mark and Sarah Bolton fell for this spot. They bought the second cottage in the row three years ago and their small garden tumbles down the hillside in a short series of terraces, shored up by low stone walls and navigated via railway



STYLE
Natural planting with many annuals and wild flowers

SEASONS OF INTEREST
Spring and summer

SIZE
15 metres x 6 metres

SOIL TYPE
Neutral and well-drained

OPPOSITE Vibrant fiery blooms of *Crocosmia* x *crocosmiiflora* **THIS PAGE** Diaphanous yellow fennel and velvety spires of great mullein tower above an unruly sea of field poppies and orange crocosmia











sleeper steps. Crocosmia and tall, diaphanous fennel thrive here, dotted with red valerian, clary sage, corncockle and field poppies. Great mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*) send velvety spires skywards, preceded by purple foxgloves earlier in the year.

The garden is a jumbled, tangled tapestry of flowers and foliage, often just on the edge of untidy, and Mark encourages it to be somewhat wild. "I've been photographing plants and gardens professionally for 20 years, so I have a head full of Latin plant names, but I certainly wouldn't describe myself as an expert gardener," he says. "In my working life, I see so many gardens with manmade features – topiary, statues and fountains and so on. In contrast, this is my effort to keep it simple – to let things grow and do their own thing. Many of the plants find their own way here and I try not to interfere too much."

In practice, this means that his main occupation is reining in the more over-enthusiastic – some would say thuggish – elements. When he and Sarah arrived, the previous occupants – who had put in the terracing and steps – had been gone two years, and the garden they had loved and nurtured was neglected. "Fennel had all but taken over – I'm forever digging that out," Mark says, "and the red valerian and crocosmia, much as I love them, constantly need keeping in check, too."

This culling and editing left Mark with areas of bare earth in the first spring, so he bought several packets of "cheap and cheerful" seeds from Wilko, scattered them about and then waited to see what came up: "It's very informal – a big mixture of reds, oranges and yellows that just seems to work."

At the bottom of the garden is a small lawn, often subject to attack from local moles, and at the top there's a brick terrace where Mark and Sarah can sit and enjoy the spectacular sunsets or observe the marine traffic on the horizon. Despite its apparently exposed position, East Prawle enjoys a very mild climate and frost is rare. The open aspect means the garden has exceptionally high light levels, so growing conditions are favourable. An escallonia hedge on the south-west boundary helps to

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Delicate fennel flower heads offset the strong shapes and colours of crocosmia and red valerian in an informal arrangement; self-seeded *Stachys sylvatica*; *Carduus nutans* or musk thistle; field poppies provide a bold splash of red; oregano is very popular with the bees **OPPOSITE** An anarchic mix of wild flowers and annuals creates a natural effect that feels in keeping with the garden's setting on the south Devon coast











THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE LEFT The deep pink blooms of a fuchsia hedge and yellow flowers of great mulleins by the garden gate glow in the rays of a spectacular sunset; the sea provides a perfect backdrop for the intense colour and elegant structure of *Foeniculum vulgare;* the frothy white flowers of *Daucus carota* (wild carrot) are attractive to beneficial insects such as ladybirds; *Salvia sclarea* var. *turkestanica* or clary sage is highly aromatic **OPPOSITE** Tall agapanthus introduce a cooler note to plantings in predominantly hot bright hues

break the force of any onshore winds and stop the plants from getting too buffeted about.

Agapanthus does well up on the terrace, as do lavender, *Hydrangea macrophylla* and rosemary. To provide some height and added drama without the invasive tendencies of fennel, Mark has recently planted statuesque, purple-flowered *Angelica gigas*, recommended to him by Derry Watkins at Special Plants. He has also added a red bistort *Persicaria amplexicaulis* 'Firetail', bought at Hill House Nursery at Landscove, just south-east of Dartmoor. "It's an amazing place – one of my favourite nurseries in Devon – well worth a detour," Mark says. Both have been tucked in behind the escallonia hedge to give them some protection.

Mark has an eye for wild flowers and welcomes 'volunteers' that spring up in the garden, the seeds of which he presumes drift in from National Trust land between his plot and the sea. These include hedge woundwort (*Stachys sylvatica*) with whorls of purple-crimson flowers, feathery wild carrot (*Daucus carota*) and musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*) with its nodding purple blooms. Bees, ladybirds, butterflies and moths are frequent visitors and, as East Prawle is so southerly, the birdlife is rich, too, with migrants passing through in spring and gathering there for their long flights in the autumn.

"There are so many wonderful moths here, including the spectacular humming-bird hawk moth, which migrates from southern Europe," Mark says. "We have a local expert who goes out at night to record them with light traps. We used to wonder what was happening when we first saw his lone light out on the headland after dark."

Over the course of each summer, Mark monitors how the mixture of flowers is working out. Many are self-seeding but he still wants to maintain variety, so further editing and adjusting will be needed to stop any one plant dominating. He is also starting to speculate on whether or not to intervene more by applying fertiliser. "As yet, I haven't played with the soil at all by beefing it up with added compost but all the wild flowers seem to enjoy fairly lean pickings, so actually I'm tempted to leave well alone. Nature seems to be doing a pretty good job here without too much interference from me."

Enjoy garden features, top tips and more in CL's free weekly newsletter. To sign up, text CL to 84499 followed by your email address.*

*TEXTS TO THIS NUMBER ARE CHARGED AT YOUR STANDARD NETWORK RATE. BY TEXTING INTO THIS SERVICE YOU ARE OPTING IN TO RECEIVE MESSAGES FROM US BY EMAIL AND SMS. YOU CAN OPT OUT FROM SMS BY TEXTING STOP TO 84499 AND FROM EMAIL BY CLICKING 'UNSUBSCRIBE'

“Many of the plants find their own way here and I try not to interfere too much”





a cornish dream

A light-filled early-Victorian cottage overlooking St Ives is the perfect showcase for its owners' charmingly quirky collections

WORDS BY **PAT GARRETT** ● PHOTOGRAPHS BY **DAVID GILES**

With its whitewashed stone walls and semi-tropical garden created over a series of gentle terraces, this small early-Victorian cottage, high above St Ives, is most people's idea of the perfect Cornish hideaway. It's the type of home that holidaymakers often fantasise about as they gaze into estate agents' windows but, unlike most of these daydreamers, Sharon McSwiney and her husband, Tim Ashfield, took the plunge, deciding to change their lives and establish both a home and business here.

"We lived in Worcester but used to come down as often as we could," explains Sharon, who is a metalworker and jeweller. "Each time, we felt more and more drawn to the area – it's such a beautiful place with a thriving artistic community." With the Leach Pottery down the road in Higher Stennack and the Tate and Barbara Hepworth galleries in town, there is no lack of inspiration for Sharon, who designs and creates from her studio in the garden. The wrens and long-tailed tits who visit her bird feeder have now been incorporated into her work, along with the leaves, shells and seaweed she forages from local woods and beaches.

Four years ago when the couple first made the decision to up sticks and make a life for themselves in Cornwall, their immediate priority was to find a retail outlet in town to rent for Sharon's work, which Tim, who had been a kitchen consultant, could run. And they needed to buy a house. In the spring of 2013, they found both and within weeks of selling their Worcester home had moved in. Sharon initially viewed the property with uncertainty: "I'd never envisaged living in a cottage and was used to the space of Victorian houses, but this felt welcoming and cosy and has a sunny, south-facing garden."

Even the ultra-colourful interior, with its aubergine beams, lilac walls and green radiators, failed to put her off. In



OPPOSITE Cat-themed china, displayed on the walls of Sharon's garden studio, is just one of her many passions **THIS PAGE** The cottage has wonderful views down to the harbour of this popular seaside town





advance of the move, Tim came down with a futon and a coolbox of food, and gallantly camped in the cottage while painting the interior white. So when Sharon arrived some weeks later, with their vast collections of artwork, there was a perfect, blank canvas on which to display them.

No structural work was needed inside the extended cottage, but there were many cosmetic improvements on the couple's wish list. In the spacious bathroom, which Sharon suspects was converted from a bedroom, the exterior of the rolltop bath was painted an unappealing shade of green, so they transformed it with a coat of grey and gave the varnished, badly scratched floor the same treatment. A ledge behind the bath provides a surface on which to display yet more of her treasured finds.

The kitchen was more problematic. Believed to have been added in the 1970s, its glazed walls and Velux windows flooded the room with light, giving it the feeling of a conservatory. The fittings, however, were poor. "The cupboards didn't fit, there was very little storage space or worktops and the oven had stopped working," Sharon remembers, "so we ripped everything out and commissioned a local joiner to make new units. I showed

THIS PAGE AND OPPOSITE The simple lines and pale wood of mid-century furniture work well in the cottage's tiny rooms. In the sitting area, parts of the old stone walls were left exposed to provide texture, while whitewashed beams enhance the feeling of space. Natural finds and animal-themed accessories add colour and interest


BRING ME SUNSHINE



him cuttings from magazines and suggested he base the design on a grid system, rather like a Mondrian painting."

The result is a unique combination of open shelves and plywood cupboard doors, some sprayed with Farrow & Ball's fiery orange Charlotte's Locks, others painted in Pavilion Gray or Pitch Black. The Swan fridge is also bright orange, the floor is in dark engineered oak boards, the worktop is a matt honed granite and the splashback behind the new cooker was devised by Sharon. She asked a signwriter to create a vinyl panel using a sample of Orla Kiely wallpaper, which is now protected behind toughened glass: "I love the retro look of her designs – we have a lot of her kitchenware, too." The beauty of the scheme is that it is so flexible. As she points out, "If we want to change the orange, we can just spray the doors of the units and the fridge. So, although the kitchen was a big investment, we felt it was worth it."

Mid-century-modern design, with its simplicity and clean lines, also has great appeal for Sharon. She discovered several pieces of furniture by Ercol and G Plan, including a daybed and three 'pebble' tables, in local antiques shops and has revamped them for the cottage. "This is a small place, so the modest scale of such furniture suits it perfectly," she explains.

Perhaps the most striking aspect of the cottage's interior is the amount of artwork, ceramics, sculpture and books on display. Keen to support fellow artists, Sharon has packed every inch of wall and shelf space with their work. "I like to assemble items

OPPOSITE In the dining room, a light oak table and benches from Habitat's Radius collection are teamed with vintage furniture and an eclectic mix of finds sourced from car-boot sales and local antiques shops **BELOW** Panels in Farrow & Ball's Charlotte's Locks and an orange fridge are offset by grey units and oak flooring in the kitchen





"I assemble items into groups and arrange them by colour, shape or texture"







OPPOSITE Artworks in restful shades hang above a vintage Ercol dressing table in the main bedroom **THIS PAGE, FROM ABOVE** Framed shells and buttons, seed heads and holiday souvenirs decorate the guest room **RIGHT** A yellow vintage cabinet and rug brighten the bathroom

into groups and then arrange them by colour, shape or texture," she explains. "I enjoy creating a still-life out of disparate objects."

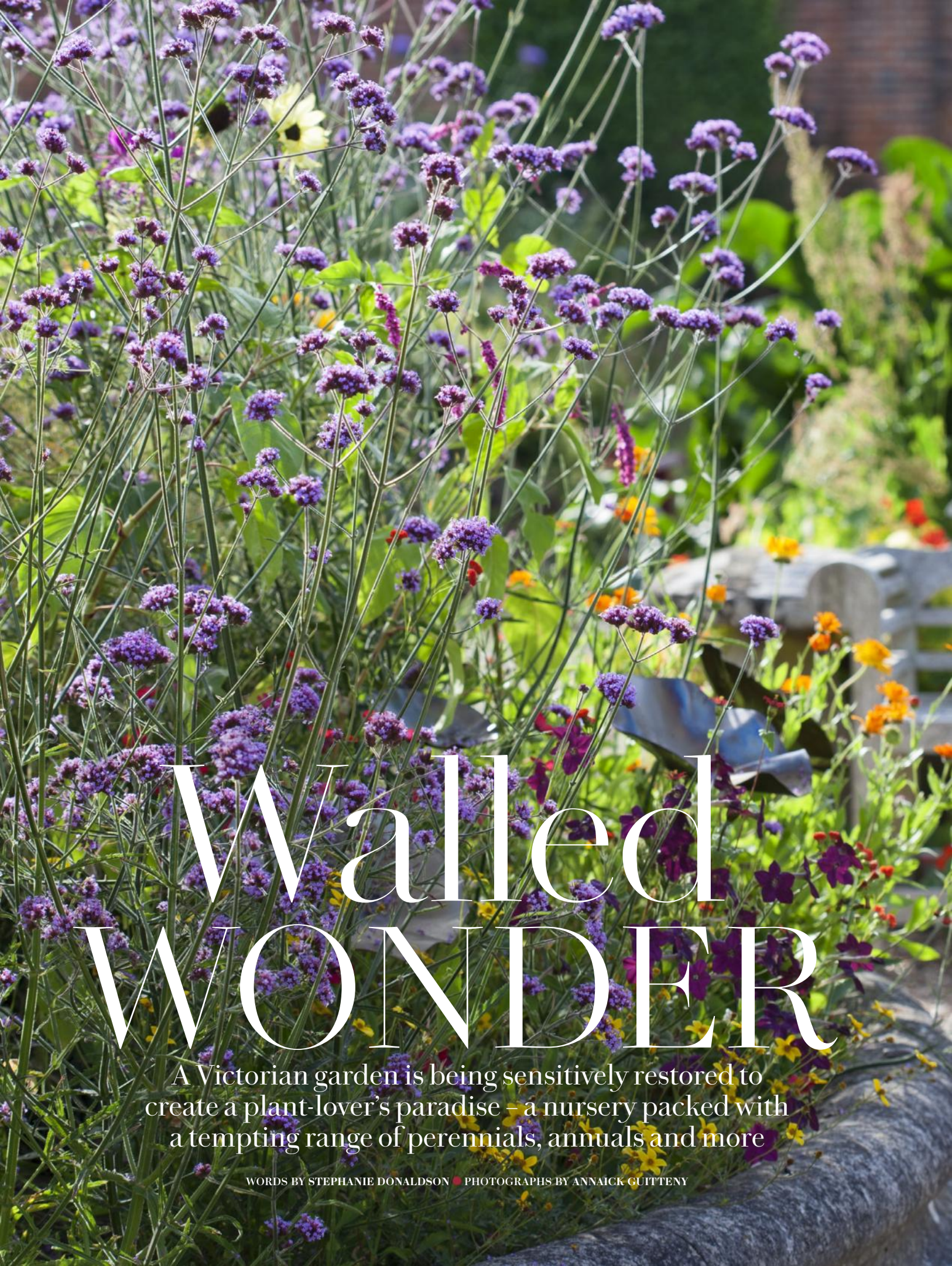
The urge to collect and create extends to her studio, where the shelves are filled with inspirational items for her work: Kilner jars hold seed heads, feathers and fragments of sea glass worn smooth by the waves. By the window lies a sketchpad full of delicate drawings from nature that will be used to inspire her distinctive metalwork and jewellery in silver, copper and brass.

Outside in the garden, striking foliage plants such as echium, eucomis, gunnera and cordyline were chosen by Sharon for the architectural shapes they create . "In Cornwall I'm surrounded by natural beauty," she says. "Just outside our door is the coastal path, with its wonderful walks, and the beach is minutes away. Moving here has had such an amazing impact on my work and on our lives – more than we could ever have imagined."

For more information on Sharon's work and to see her handcrafted pieces, visit sharonmcswiney.co.uk.

*Enjoy house features, interiors inspiration and more in CL's free weekly newsletter. To sign up, text CL to 84499 followed by your email address.**

*TEXTS TO THIS NUMBER ARE CHARGED AT YOUR STANDARD NETWORK RATE. BY TEXTING INTO THIS SERVICE YOU ARE OPTING IN TO RECEIVE MESSAGES FROM US BY EMAIL AND SMS. YOU CAN OPT OUT FROM SMS BY TEXTING STOP TO 84499 AND FROM EMAIL BY CLICKING 'UNSUBSCRIBE'



Walled WONDER

A Victorian garden is being sensitively restored to create a plant-lover's paradise – a nursery packed with a tempting range of perennials, annuals and more

WORDS BY STEPHANIE DONALDSON ● PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANNAICK GUITTENY



OPPOSITE Branching *Verbena bonariensis* and bright annuals fill the old pond
THIS PAGE Red-hot pokers provide a fiery focus in a long border by the glasshouses





THIS PAGE, ABOVE Emma and Monty Davies, owners of The Walled Nursery **LEFT** Vibrant pink *Salvia* 'Wendy's Wish' is one of the many distinctive varieties for sale **OPPOSITE** Beside the old peach glasshouse, wooden staging holds an array of plants to tempt customers, including colourful *Diascia fetcaniensis*, salvias and buddlejas, ideal for sunny borders

Emma Davies first saw The Walled Nursery 25 years ago, while accompanying a friend who was feeding some resident goats. "The glasshouses were derelict, with rotten wood and glass hanging down," she recalls. "I couldn't believe she was going to risk walking through them and insisted we put cardboard boxes on our heads!"

Despite the dangers, Emma fell for the place and dreamt of taking it on. "There is the most wonderful atmosphere," she explains. "Echoes of its past are apparent everywhere – it has a precious quality worth preserving." The three-acre walled garden, with its 13 late-Victorian Foster & Pearson greenhouses, is part of what was once a grand estate (now an independent school) near Hawkhurst in the High Weald of Kent. In its early-20th-century heyday, it would have bustled with activity, employing nine full-time gardeners to supply produce and flowers for its owners.

Scroll forward to today and professional gardeners Emma and her husband Monty are in charge of what they call 'The Demanding Ladies', although it has been a long and rocky road to get here. The largest 'lady', the 47-metre-long vinery – now made safe and glazed with modern lightweight materials – houses a shop full of tempting gardenalia and vintage tools, as well as the Vinery Café, where breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea are served using home-grown and local produce. Outside, display beds and wooden sales benches brim with colourful perennials and annuals, 85 per cent of which Emma grows on site.

Fortunately, between them, Emma and Monty have considerable horticultural and business experience – as well as the vast amounts of energy required to get such an undertaking onto a firm footing. Emma brought Monty to see the site soon after they met at Hadlow College in the late 1990s, where she was studying horticulture and he landscape management. "It was already being run as a nursery by then, so we asked the owners to contact us if they ever decided to sell," Emma says. "Happily, they had managed to save the glasshouses from total ruin but their budget for restoration was very limited so there was still a real danger they would have to be demolished."

In 2009 they finally received the call: "They gave us six months before putting it on the open market, so we sold our house and gardening business, borrowed as much money as we could and took over in January 2010, moving into the far-from-luxurious gardener's bothy on site with our toddler Rufus and two-month-old baby, Tommy."

Emma's initial instinct was to tidy everything: "Luckily, Monty guided me away from that – we'd never have got the business going otherwise," she explains. They knew the restoration of the glasshouses would be a long-term project so, once some had been made safe and others closed off, they focused on the nursery, propagating and growing-on choice plants that would draw in customers.

Emma has worked in two of England's greatest gardens – Great Dixter and Sissinghurst – where she built up extensive plant knowledge and experience. While still





CLOCKWISE, FROM THIS PICTURE Benches and a shepherd's hut are placed so customers can admire the planting in the old pond; vivid tassled flowers of *Emilia javanica*; vintage gardening tools and stylish deckchairs are on sale in the Vinery shop

at college, she was taken on by Christopher Lloyd two days a week as a volunteer at Great Dixter. "I think he liked my enthusiasm but he tested me constantly!" she recalls.

After college, she joined the garden team at Sissinghurst for six years. "It was very different from the informality of Dixter," she says. "We would meet every morning and be allotted tasks so you always knew who was doing what. I'm glad I had both experiences and they have informed how I garden here. I liked Sissinghurst's regimented working style and learnt most of my propagating skills there."

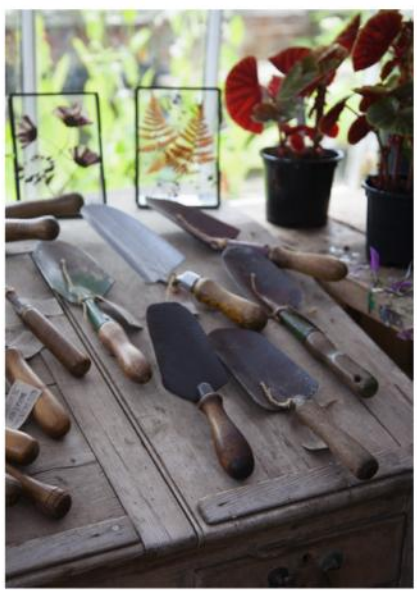
Once Emma and Monty got into their stride, it wasn't long before word began to spread that The Walled Nursery was a good place for well-grown, interesting plants. "We've created a niche in growing and selling annuals," Emma explains. "My time at Dixter and Sissinghurst taught me that if you want to extend seasons and bridge the lulls, annuals are invaluable." Benches overflow with orlaya, salpiglossis, nicotiana, *Linum grandiflorum*, tithonia, emilia (Emma's current favourite) and zinnias. Climbers – including *Mina lobata*, sweet peas and ipomoea – are romping up their supports, and there's a great range of equally tempting perennials, herbs and vegetable plants.

The sunken glasshouse, where melons were grown in the past, is now home to an ever-expanding collection of succulents. "The majority are sedums and sempervivums, which are reliably hardy, as well as many varieties of tender echeverias, crassula and aeoniums," Emma says. "Our favourites for outdoor containers are sempervivums and trailing *Sedum* 'Dragon's Blood', which is beautiful and tough as old boots, with flowers the bees adore."

With a loyal and ever-growing band of customers, the business is thriving and Emma and Monty's tireless efforts have been rewarded with an unexpected donation of £200,000, enabling them to restore up to four central glasshouses. "It's from a lady evacuated here to live with her grandfather, who was head gardener, during the war. She has very happy memories of this place and wants it to be saved," Emma explains. Work starts this year and the couple feel they've been thrown a much-needed lifeline. 'The Demanding Ladies' could not be in better hands.

The Walled Nursery, Water Lane, Hawkhurst, Kent (01580 752752; thewallednursery.com).







RAFT

Reclaimed teak.
Handmade sofas.

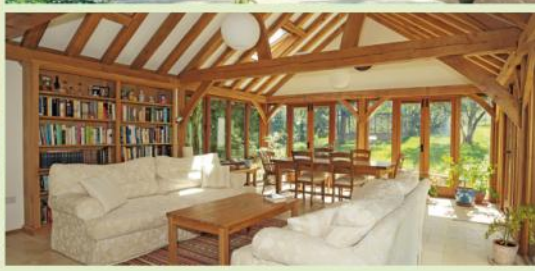
Brighton - Bristol - Bromley
Clapham junction - Edgware road
Harrogate - Notting Hill Gate - Richmond
St. Albans - Tottenham Court Road

FSC
www.fsc.org
FSC® C020844
The mark of responsible forestry

www.raftfurniture.co.uk







Unbeatable quality.
With a guaranteed unbeatable price.

As the UK's number one Oak Framed Building manufacturer, we pride ourselves on not simply providing you with a beautiful addition to your home, but much more besides.

EHB is the only Oak Framing company in the UK that can prove it meets the exacting building standards set by our industry, resulting in us being awarded the Exova BM TRADA Q-Mark.

We offer an insurance backed deposit protection on all of our buildings plus a 10-year building guarantee if the frame is assembled by our approved sub-contractor.

With such standards and reputation, you may expect to pay more. However, with our **PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE**, you will be safe in the knowledge that your new Oak Framed building will exceed your expectations at an unbeatable price.

STANDARD DESIGN BUILDINGS DELIVERED IN 6 TO 8 WEEKS

LOG ON TO **www.ehbp.com**

FOR AN INSTANT QUOTE NOW

OR CALL **01424 838643**

OFFICE OPENING HOURS: **Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.00pm**

FOR MAINLAND EUROPE CALL US ON **+32 3 685 2000**

EXTENSIONS • HOUSES • GARAGING • HOME LEISURE BUILDINGS
PLANNING • GARDEN ROOMS • GARAGES WITH ROOMS ABOVE • COMPLEXES
CART SHEDS • COMMERCIAL & PUBLIC BUILDINGS • POOL ENCLOSURES

ENGLISH HERITAGE® BUILDINGS

Building Systems Scheme BSYS-006

BM TRADA

English Heritage Buildings are the UK's first and only oak framed building company to achieve the Exova BM TRADA Q-Mark. Exova BM TRADA are recognised as the country's leading authority on timber framed products and the certification of them.

HEAVY CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPMENT & MACHINERY AWARDS 2017
English Heritage Buildings
Best Timber Construction Company - UK

BUILD

*Excl VAT. Special offer applies to detached buildings, excluding houses. Please visit our website to view the Price Match terms and conditions.







EMMA'S GUIDE TO GROWING ANNUALS

Sow in seed pans on a heated bench with a propagation frame over the germinating seedlings

Annuals hate a cold start – sow at the end of March or beginning of April (except for autumn-sown ammi and sweet peas)

Prick out into cells as soon as seedlings are large enough to handle

Once plants start to grow, snip them off just above the second set of leaves to make a sturdy, bushy shape

Pot them on into 7cm pots when they are growing strongly

Nicotiana seedlings are tiny – sow thinly in cells, prick out again into cells until their roots show through the base and then pot on

Persicaria orientalis, tithonia and zinnia are very vulnerable to slugs – sow more than you think you will need

Wait for really warm weather to sow climbers such as *Mina lobata* and ipomoea or they will never thrive – or sulk and die

Remember to water young plants daily when it is warm and sunny



"Annuals are invaluable for extending flowering seasons and bridging lulls"

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT Known as Spanish flag, *Ipomoea lobata* is a fast-growing annual climber that produces cascades of distinctive flowers; Emma keeps on top of watering the young seedlings as they can dry out quickly in the warm glasshouse conditions; the striking trumpet-shaped flowers of *Ipomoea tricolor* 'Blue Star'; fiery *Zinnia* 'Giant Scarlet'



SAVE £100 WHEN YOU BUY TWO OR MORE ITEMS UNTIL 30TH JUNE WITH CODE WH100*

THE

Downton

SOFA OR SOFA BED

from £1,004 or £1,180

Call us on **020 8939 3800** or visit our London showroom | **willowandhall.co.uk**

*Selected ranges. Visit www.willowandhall.co.uk/our-terms-and-conditions to find out more.







GROW & COOK

recipes from the kitchen garden

This month: The Ethicurean

WORDS BY **RUTH CHANDLER** ● PHOTOGRAPHS BY **BRENT DARBY**
FOOD AND DRINK EDITOR **ALISON WALKER**

Walled kitchen gardens are places of enchantment. Aside from their pleasing layouts and productive beds, brick boundaries make each one a world in itself, sheltering people and plants, and romancing visitors with a sense of the past. Add views of the Mendip Hills and an artisan restaurant in an old glasshouse, and you've a bewitching example in Barley Wood Walled Garden – a beautifully restored Victorian plot in Wrington, Somerset, home to The Ethicurean.

A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

On this slightly overcast July morning, Iain Pennington is inside podding peas at one of the tables while he runs through the day's menu with his brother Matthew (both opposite, left to right), fellow owner and co-head chef. Colourful glass jars and bottles line the windowsill, creating the air of a science lab. "We've always experimented," Iain says, gesturing at what he calls 'objects of curiosity': oils, vinegars, wines and spirits. "Both of us constantly question how dishes and drinks are made and try to discover new ways to showcase ingredients." The self-taught chefs' culinary passions were sparked in childhood, inspired by their father who cooked for them and their two sisters. It was in 2008, while running a Bristol-based business using farmers' market produce to make artisan takeaway food, such as chorizo Scotch eggs, that the pair heard about a glasshouse-based café to let. They hit upon the ➲





idea of creating a restaurant serving up great dishes, seasoned with the strong ethical principles that they believe in so passionately.

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Today's offering from the plot's gardener, Mark Cox, illustrates why this was an irresistible idea and worth the 120-hour weeks the brothers worked to make The Ethicurean a success. As well as a variety of flowers for the tables, including several different dahlias, there are 'Golden Globe', 'Albina Ice' and 'Chioggia' beetroots and pinkish-striped 'Graffiti' aubergines. "July is a bounteous month," Iain says, admiring the display. "There are gooseberries galore, destined for sorbets, vinegars, chutneys, jams and sherbet, which is lovely with our steamed strawberry pudding or to dab homemade liquorice sticks into." This is just a fraction of the organically grown fruit, vegetables and herbs available within feet of The Ethicurean's door. Peas podded, Iain heads out to pick from a vast bed of broad beans, which he'll use in a granita served alongside fresh cucumber ribbons, ewe's curd, dukkah and the gooseberry sherbet.

THE CONSTANT GARDENER

"I'm a seed-aholic with a passion for heritage varieties," Mark says. "I've a 1920s shipping chest stuffed full of packets from Tamar Organics and The Real Seed Catalogue." With help from one part-time assistant, Ellie Wimshurst, he supplies around 80 per cent of the restaurant's fresh produce, meets the team daily to discuss what's available to cook with, and takes head chef Simon Miller on a tour of the beds every week so he can plan menus. "The soil is dark and crumbly with just a little clay. I've been adding organic matter to it for years and am trying the no-dig approach this year." The garden is divided into a classic crop-rotation system of four sections and there are three polytunnels, one with a 30-foot propagation unit and two in which tomatoes, chillis and salads thrive. Mark is devoted to Barley Wood, living just two minutes' walk away, and cooks his meals on a stove in the polytunnel so he can work long days during spring and summer. Despite his evident skill, he is very modest: "I learn something new every day, but it seems to me that gardening is mostly about timing and seizing the moment."

THE FAT OF THE LAND

With no experience, the Penningtons and their team had much to find out about running a restaurant in 2010. "We didn't have a clue," Iain recalls. "We started the working day as late as 9am, expecting to pick our own produce from often-frozen beds in winter and then, as crops became thinner on the ground, we were stuck. Now we know to preserve as much as possible by pickling and fermenting – and begin at 7am." From the outset, The Ethicurean has been deeply connected to the local area: staples such as potatoes and carrots are from a community farm in nearby Chew Magna, Matthew and Iain forage coastal greens including samphire around Portishead and Clevedon, and the meat they serve is either wild or from breeds native to the region, such as those raised by Piper's Farm in Cullompton, Devon.

The brothers may have refined their offering since those early days, but there's still the odd stressful morning. The antidote is time in the garden. "This is a daily ritual for all the chefs," Matthew says. "We're efficient enough now to allow everyone to take 15 minutes out. Gaining some clarity and quiet before a busy service is really beneficial to the food and atmosphere we strive to create."

As the restaurant fills up this lunchtime, it's clear that its award-winning fare, rural setting and relaxed ambience are a draw for both young and old, business colleagues and families, parties and couples. Casual diners sit at a long communal table; those who've made their journey by bike or bus are rewarded with a ten per cent discount on their bill. In a pleasing instance of symmetry, just as the chefs often visit the garden before service begins, customers find that the ultimate way to finish a meal at The Ethicurean, whether a simple lunch or a full-blown feast, is to walk around the garden that has fed them.

Turn the page for delicious recipes using seasonal produce.

The Ethicurean, Barley Wood Walled Garden, Long Lane, Wrington, Somerset (theethicurean.com). Recipes adapted from The Ethicurean Cookbook *by Matthew Pennington, Iain Pennington, Paula Zarate and Jack Adair-Bevan. Published by Ebury Press, £27.*











MARK COX'S TOP GROWING TIPS

Never plant strawberries near a path – the fruits will disappear very quickly.

Start a row of radishes where you've recently sown parsnips – otherwise, due to the root vegetable's long growing time, you might forget where you planted them.

Rather than discarding the side shoots of tomato plants, establish them in a separate pot, as you would any cutting, and bring them on to produce fruit.







OPPOSITE Salad leaves are grown alongside edible flowers on the sloping site
THIS PAGE Natural ingredients are used to create distinctive drinks; pears feature in several dishes; surplus plants are available to buy; Iain pods peas; freshly harvested produce for the day's menu; Iain gathers pansies and lettuce for salads; fresh herbs and flowers add flavour and decoration





CURD CHEESE, CUCUMBER, FLAT BEAN, ANISEED AND SESAME SALAD

Preparation *25 minutes* ***Cooking*** *about 5 minutes* ***Serves*** *4*

Other than a quick cucumber pickle and a dressing, this salad is made to order, highlighting the way fresh produce at its best marks the start of a bountiful summer. Here, we make use of cucumber and flat beans, both of which ripen splendidly early in our glasshouses. If you are growing them outdoors, these will be available in late spring to early summer. The aniseed dressing works harmoniously with the juicy cucumber and delightfully sweet flat beans.

100g flat beans or runner beans, chopped
3 young cucumbers
1 tsp aniseed (or fennel seeds)
100ml cider vinegar
100g caster sugar
8 tbsp ewe's curd (or goat's curd or a fresh young cheese)
50g cheese rind, the older and drier the better, finely grated (the rind of unwaxed ewe's milk cheese is ideal)
fine sea salt
12 borage flowers and a few watercress leaves, to garnish
1 tsp sesame seeds, toasted

FOR THE WATERCRESS DRESSING

70ml buttermilk (if not available, stir 1 tsp vinegar into 65ml milk and leave for 5 minutes)
35g mayonnaise
bunch of watercress stalks
mustard powder

1. Blanch the beans in boiling salted water for 2 minutes until just tender. Drain and leave in iced water.
2. Cut one cucumber into 5mm dice and sprinkle liberally with salt. Leave to drain in a sieve for 20-30 minutes to give the finished pickle a crunch.
3. Heat the aniseed in a dry pan until it spits and crackles. Take off the heat, add the vinegar carefully, then stir in the sugar until dissolved. Leave to cool.
4. Rinse the salt from the cubed cucumber. Place the cubes in a bowl and cover with the warm vinegar mixture. Leave to cool. This will keep in the fridge for 5 days.
5. Put all the dressing ingredients in a blender, keeping back a few of the watercress stalks, and pulse until the stalks are very finely chopped. The mixture should be no thicker than single cream. Taste and add more of the stalks if you want to increase the pepperiness. Season with salt and set aside.
6. Trim the ends and 2 long sides from the other 2 cucumbers and peel into strips with a Y-shaped vegetable peeler or a mandolin. Lay these on each serving plate, curling the strips over, and dress with fine sea salt.
7. Spoon scoops of ewe's curd and roll them in the grated cheese rind. Place among the strips of cucumber. Add a few cubes of pickled cucumber and a teaspoon of the aniseed marinade to each plate. Scatter over the beans, then spoon over the watercress dressing. Finish with borage flowers, a few small watercress leaves and the toasted sesame seeds.

FIGS WRAPPED IN PORK BELLY WITH LAVENDER AND BUFFALO MOZZARELLA

Preparation *10 minutes* ***Cooking*** *12 minutes* ***Serves*** *4*

The fig tree at the Walled Garden never ceases to surprise us, as it seems to be oblivious to the volatility of the British weather. It lives in a blissful state of constant expansion, extending its leafy branches without shame. The tree claims the front brick archway as its rightful area, ensuring all visitors passing through the top gate are welcomed by its generous presence. As summer progresses, opening the heavy wooden gate without damaging the branches becomes more and more challenging. It is almost as if it is trying to remind us of its healthy growth every morning. There is no need for such attention-seeking behaviour. It is one of the most watched trees in our garden. The figs are so precious to us that we cannot risk any of them being wasted.

8 ripe figs
1 buffalo-milk mozzarella, sliced into 8 pieces
16 slices of cured pork belly, such as pancetta
16 lavender spears from lavender in flower
4 tsp lavender honey

1. Heat the oven to 200°C (180°C fan oven) gas mark 6. Wash and dry the figs, being careful not to damage the skin. Cut a cross 2-3cm deep through the stem of each one and open it up like a flower. Stuff with a slice of mozzarella, then wrap 2 slices of cured pork belly round the outside. Spike each fig with 2 lavender flower spears to hold the pork in place while baking.
2. Put the figs in a baking dish, drizzle ½ tsp honey over each one and cook for 10-12 minutes, until the pork belly is crisp and figs lightly caramelised. Cool slightly before serving.



DORSET BLUE VINNY AND FLAME-ROASTED PEPPERS WITH CHARRED LITTLE GEM

Preparation *30 minutes, plus standing* ***Cooking*** *about 20 minutes* ***Serves*** *4 as a main course, 6-8 as a starter*

Flame roasting is our favourite way of cooking peppers, as the smoke imparts a depth of flavour that contrasts with their inherent sweetness. We like coriander seeds for the gentle, grassy, orange-like flavour, as well as a little ground coriander, and also a few of the flowers, which are milder than the leaves. Dorset Blue Vinny cheese is a staple in our kitchen: a piece on the riper side is blended with crème fraîche to make a sauce.

2 Romero peppers
200g-250g new potatoes, cut into 1cm pieces
6-8 Little Gem lettuces
vegetable or rapeseed oil, for brushing
300g mixed lettuce leaves
6-8 coriander flower heads
ground coriander, for dusting
2 tsp coriander seeds, lightly crushed

FOR THE DRESSING

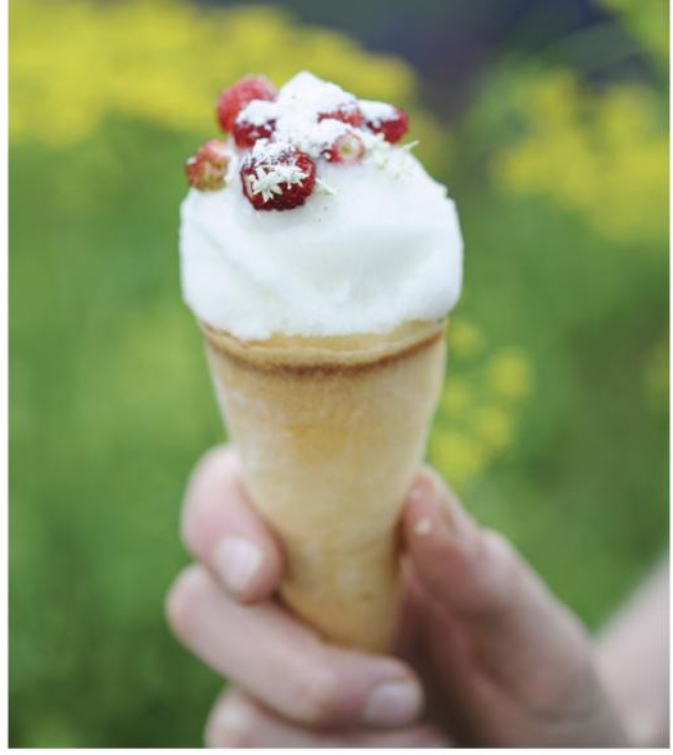
60g vintage cider vinegar, such as Ostler's (ostlerscidermill.co.uk)
8g Dijon mustard
100g rapeseed oil

FOR THE BLUE VINNY SAUCE

50g Dorset Blue Vinny, roughly chopped
150ml crème fraîche

1. Roast the peppers, either on a barbecue or a gas hob by turning a ring on full, placing them directly on the flame and leaving until the skin begins to blister and blacken. Using metal tongs, turn the peppers and repeat on the other side. (If you don't have a gas hob, cut them vertically in half and remove their seeds. Lightly oil the skin and place under a hot grill until the skin blisters and blackens.) As soon as the peppers are blackened all over, place in a small bowl, cover with clingfilm and leave for 20 minutes.
2. Cook the potatoes in boiling salted water for about 12 minutes, until tender. Drain and leave to cool.
3. To make the dressing, put the vinegar and mustard into a blender and blitz on full speed before slowly pouring in the oil in a thin, steady stream until it is all incorporated. Blitz for a further 30 seconds on full speed. This can be stored in the fridge for up to a week.
4. Put the cheese and crème fraîche in a blender or food processor and blitz until smooth. Season with salt to taste. If the cheese is too strong for your liking, add a little more crème fraîche.
5. With a lightly dampened cloth or hand towel, rub the peppers to remove the blackened skin. Split them in half and remove the seeds. Tear the peppers vertically into strips about 5-10mm thick and set aside.
6. Place a griddle pan over a high heat. Lightly brush the outside of each Little Gem with oil. Put them on the griddle pan and leave, undisturbed, until there are charred lines beneath. Turn and repeat on all sides until the leaves are coloured and tender but not overcooked. Set aside in a warm place.
7. Put the Little Gems on serving plates among the mixed leaves. Scatter the potatoes around and lightly dress the leaves with the salad dressing. Dot the pepper strips throughout the leaves and add drops of the Blue Vinny dressing.
8. Separate the coriander heads into smaller flowers and use to garnish the salad. Dust with ground coriander and a few crushed coriander seeds.

PHOTOGRAPH BY JASON INGRAM



ELDERFLOWER SORBET WITH FENNEL SHERBET AND WILD STRAWBERRIES

Preparation *25 minutes, plus infusing and freezing* ***Cooking*** *5 minutes* ***Serves*** *4-6*

Tiny wild strawberries add the perfect finishing touch to this wonderfully refreshing summertime treat.

10 large elderflower heads
65ml elderflower cordial
50g glucose powder (from a health food shop or chemists)
195g caster sugar

FOR THE WILD FENNEL SHERBET

100g icing sugar
2 tsp citric acid
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 tbsp fennel seeds

TO SERVE

4-6 ice-cream cones
20-30 wild strawberries (if not available, use small cultivated strawberries, cubed)

1. To make the sherbet, put all the ingredients in a blender and blitz until the seeds are finely ground, then pass through a fine sieve. It will keep in an airtight container for up to a month and is great sprinkled over desserts.
2. Remove all but the smallest stalks from the elderflowers and place them in a bowl.
3. Put all the ingredients, except the elderflowers, in a pan, add 690ml water and bring to the boil, stirring to dissolve the sugar. Take off the heat immediately and add the elderflowers. Leave to infuse for 15 minutes, then strain through a fine sieve. Discard the elderflowers and leave the syrup to cool. Transfer to the fridge and leave for at least 2 hours before churning. This allows the proteins present in the mixture to hydrate fully, which improves the whipping qualities, giving a smoother sorbet.
4. Freeze in an ice-cream machine according to the manufacturer's instructions. When the mixture is almost frozen, blitz with a stick blender for 15-30 seconds, then return to the machine and continue to churn. Decant into an airtight container and freeze for at least 2 hours before serving.
5. To serve, transfer the sorbet to the fridge for 10 minutes or so to soften slightly, then scoop one or two balls (or as many as you can fit!) into each ice-cream cone. Press the strawberries into the sorbet, then dust lavishly with the sherbet.

Catch OF THE DAY

Fish and seafood are the perfect ingredients for summer eating – light, tasty, quick and simple

RECIPES AND FOOD STYLING BY **ALISON WALKER**
PHOTOGRAPHS BY **CLARE WINFIELD** STYLING BY **WEI TANG**





GRILLED SARDINES WITH ORANGE GREMOLATA

Preparation *10 minutes*
Cooking *about 6 minutes*
Serves *2*

Full of omega-3 fatty acids, which are thought to be good for our health, sardines are best served simply cooked with few additions. Here, zingy gremolata balances their oily richness and, served with a green salad and crusty bread, makes an easy summer supper.

6-10 fresh sardines, descaled and gutted
zest and juice of 1 orange, plus wedges, to serve
extra-virgin olive oil, to drizzle
2 tbsp each flat-leaf parsley and mint, chopped
1 garlic clove, crushed

1. Heat the grill to medium. Make three light diagonal cuts on each side of the fish, then season inside and out with salt and freshly ground black pepper.
2. Arrange the fish in one layer on an oiled baking sheet. Drizzle with orange juice and a little oil. Cook for 2-3 minutes each side until the skin is crisp and the flesh is cooked through.
3. Mix together the zest, herbs and garlic. Season.
4. Serve the fish sprinkled with the orange gremolata and drizzled with the cooking juices.



GREEN FISH CURRY

Preparation *20 minutes*
Cooking *15 minutes* ***Serves*** *4*

This light curry uses coconut water rather than coconut milk. If you prefer a richer dish, substitute with a 400ml can of coconut milk and 100ml water. The recipe works with any firm, meaty white fish.

1-2 green chillies, with or without seeds, depending on heat preference
1 garlic clove, roughly chopped
1 knob of ginger, peeled and roughly chopped
handful of coriander, stalks retained
1 tbsp vegetable oil, plus a splash
2 shallots, sliced
500ml coconut water
zest and juice 1 lime
1 tbsp fish sauce
½ tsp palm or light brown sugar
500g hake, de-skinned and cut into bite-sized cubes
sugar snap peas and pea shoots, to serve

1. Put the chillies, garlic, ginger and coriander stalks into a mini food processor and blitz to a paste. Add a splash of oil to help bring it together if necessary.
2. Heat the oil in a pan and gently fry the shallots for about 5 minutes until soft. Add the paste and fry for another 2 minutes.
3. Stir in the coconut water, lime zest, fish sauce and sugar. Bring to the boil, then simmer for 5 minutes.
4. Add the fish and lime juice, cover and simmer gently for about 3 minutes until the fish is cooked through.
5. Divide between four warmed bowls, piling into the centre. Pour the coconut mixture around the fish. Scatter with chopped coriander and garnish with raw sugar snap peas and pea shoots.

PAN-FRIED SALMON WITH BROWN SHRIMP BUTTER AND SAMPHIRE

Preparation *10 minutes* ***Cooking*** *about 10 minutes* ***Serves*** *4*

Also known as sea asparagus, crisp and salty samphire grows in coastal marsh areas and is available from fishmongers and delicatessens. Some of the best brown shrimps, which are tiny yet packed with flavour, are found off the coast of Norfolk and Morecambe Bay in Lancashire.

50g unsalted butter
4 x 125g-140g pieces salmon fillet, skin on
100g brown shrimps
1 tbsp finely chopped dill
about 100g samphire

1. Melt 25g butter in a sauté pan over a medium heat. Fry the salmon skin-side down, for 4-5 minutes until the skin is crisp and golden. Turn over and fry for another 1-2 minutes. Set the fillets aside on a plate and keep warm.
2. Add the remaining butter to the pan and melt gently. When it stops foaming, add the shrimps and warm through for 1-2 minutes. Add the dill.
3. Meanwhile, steam or boil the samphire for 2-3 minutes until tender. Season with sea salt and divide between four warmed plates. Top with the salmon skin-side up. Garnish with the shrimps and drizzle with the buttery juices from the pan.



CRAB, LEMON AND DULSE RISOTTO

***Preparation** 20 minutes **Cooking** about 45 minutes **Serves** 4*

Brown crab meat has a deeper, richer flavour than white, so it's ideal for using in sauces and risottos. Look out for fresh crab in your fishmonger from April to November; otherwise, pots of prepared meat are available at good supermarkets. Buy dried dulse, a red seaweed with a smoky flavour, at health food shops, delicatessens or from maraseaweed.com.

2 tbsp olive oil
1 medium onion, finely chopped
½ fennel bulb, finely chopped, fronds reserved
400g risotto rice
a large pinch of dried dulse, plus extra to garnish
75ml Pernod
1.3L hot fish or light chicken stock
85g brown crab meat
zest of 1 lemon
1 tbsp freshly chopped flat-leaf parsley
60g white crab meat
extra-virgin olive oil, for drizzling

1. Put the oil in a deep-sided pan and gently fry the onion and fennel for 15 minutes until soft but not coloured. Stir in the rice and dulse until coated in oil. Cook for 1 minute.
2. Add the Pernod to the pan and bubble until almost reduced. Pour in a ladleful of hot stock and turn the heat up to a low-to-medium simmer. Stirring continuously, let the stock bubble away. Keep adding the stock, a ladleful at a time, until it is almost used up and the rice is cooked yet still has a slight bite – about 20-25 minutes; the risotto should be slightly soupy in consistency.
3. Stir in the brown crab, zest and parsley. Season.
4. Divide the risotto between four warmed bowls. Top with white crab meat, fennel fronds, a sprinkle of dulse and a drizzle of olive oil.









SINGLE STOREY, LOFTED AND TWO STOREY OAK FRAMED BUILDINGS

COURTYARD DESIGNS
OUTBUILDINGS OF DISTINCTION
EST 1991

GARAGES STABLES WORKSHOPS HOME OFFICES
SPORTS PAVILIONS GARDEN BUILDINGS

www.courtyarddesigns.co.uk Tel: 01568 760540

EVERHOT®

THE ELECTRIC RANGE

MODERN EFFICIENCY, CLASSIC GOOD LOOKS.



With six widths available and a choice of great colours we're confident we have just the right EVERHOT for you.

01453 890018
www.everhot.co.uk

SEA BREAM WITH BRAISED SUMMER VEGETABLES

Preparation *15 minutes* ***Cooking*** *25 minutes* ***Serves*** *4*

Sea bream is similar in flavour and texture to sea bass and can be served whole or as fillets. Check with your fishmonger that it has come from a sustainable source.

1 tbsp olive oil
2 shallots, finely sliced
225g new potatoes, cut into 5mm slices
about 200ml hot fish or light chicken stock
2 sprigs of tarragon, leaves and stalks separated
100g freshly shelled young peas
100g broad beans (de-podded weight), blanched and skins removed
15g butter
4 sea bream fillets (about 350g in total)
75ml dry white wine
1 tbsp capers, drained and rinsed

1. Put the oil in a sauté pan, add the shallots and fry gently for 5 minutes until softened. Add the potatoes, stock and tarragon stalks and bring to the boil. Cover and simmer gently for 10-15 minutes until tender.
2. Add the peas and beans and simmer for 2 minutes.
3. In a separate pan, heat the butter over a medium-to-high heat until it stops foaming. Fry the fish skin-side down for about 2 minutes until golden and crisp. Deglaze the pan with the wine and tip into the vegetable pan (to add valuable flavour).
4. Arrange the fish on top of the vegetables, skin side up, cover and take off the heat. Leave to sit for 2-3 minutes to finish cooking the fish.
5. Serve the vegetables in pasta bowls with the cooking liquor, topped with a sea bream fillet. Garnish with chopped tarragon leaves and scatter with capers. (If you prefer a crispy fish skin, then cook the vegetables as above and fry the fish in a separate pan as in step 3, then turn and finish cooking for 1 minute.)







MADE IN ENGLAND www.primeoak.co.uk info@primeoak.co.uk 01384 296611

GARAGES I GARDEN ROOMS I ORANGERIES I HOME OFFICES I CONSERVATORIES I BARNS I STABLES



loaf



BEDS, SOFAS AND FURNITURE FOR LOAFERS

LOAF.COM BATTERSEA NOTTING HILL NEW! SPITALFIELDS



GAME, SET & MATCH

Take your inspiration from Wimbledon fortnight and reach for your racquet – a recent study found playing sports such as tennis could help you live longer. Regularly taking part reduced risk of death from cardiovascular disease by 56 per cent – more than swimming or aerobics – according to research in the *British Journal of Sports Medicine*. It's thought the combination of physical activity and sociability makes tennis so good for us. "Since it requires alertness and tactical thinking, it might also generate new connections in the brain," explains David Bulgin from David Lloyd Clubs. Ease pressure on joints by playing on grass courts or cushioned ones indoors, and always wear appropriate shoes.



TREAT YOURSELF

Feel the therapeutic effect of the sea whatever the weather in the new spa at Cary Arms in Babbacombe Bay, Devon. Set into the cliff above the historic inn, its floor-to-ceiling windows mean you can lie in the hydrotherapy pool and watch the waves or, better still, enjoy the sea-based treatments on offer. The Tailored Thalgo Facial (£65, 50 minutes) uses products infused with marine actives. Skin is cleansed and exfoliated before a mask is applied and an arm and head massage – inspired by the movement of waves – given. Stay in the inn or one of the new beach huts and dine on a locally caught supper, looking out to Lyme Bay and Portland Bill. The British seaside doesn't get much better than this. *Stay at Cary Arms & Spa, a de Savary hotel, from £245 per night (01803 327110; caryarms.co.uk).*

health notes

Boost your wellbeing the natural way with our round-up from the world of health and beauty

MOVE OVER, COCONUT WATER – the summer health drink of choice this year is melon juice. Rich in vitamins A and C, and perfect for replenishing energy and fluids on long country walks, Mello cold-pressed juices include Watermelon, Honeydew and Cantaloupe (£2.49, waitrose.com).

FOR A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING of how your skin works, what's causing any problems and how you can solve them, read *Love Your Skin* by Abigail James (Kyle Books, £20). It's packed with advice and recipes for a glowing complexion.

TRY WILLY CHASE'S FIT POPCORN (£25.99 for 24 bags, willychases.co.uk) for a nutritious alternative to crisps on picnics. Air popped and produced on a Herefordshire farm, the flavours include Salted Honey, Apple Cider Vinegar and Nearly Naked, all with locally sourced ingredients.

For more tips and products, visit netdoctor.co.uk.



NEW FAVOURITE

Based on Ayurvedic principles, Samaya is a natural skincare range tailored to particular 'doshas' (physical and emotional characteristics). Choose from Hydrating Cleanser (£69), Anti-ageing Cream (£89) and Treatment Oil (£79, samayaayurveda.com) in vata, pitta or kapha (shown).

NATURE'S MEDICINE CABINET

Hops The rise in craft brewing means British hops are seeing an increase in popularity. In late summer, they are harvested for use in ales, but they have health benefits, too. Hop 'pillows' – where dried ones are placed in a small pillowcase – are an age-old remedy for insomnia. Their sedative quality means a tincture may promote a better night's sleep. With anti-inflammatory and anti-bacterial properties, hops make an effective poultice for scrapes or spots. There's also research to suggest that a daily extract may help to relieve hot flushes, while a hop bath was a traditional cure for period pain.*



WORDS BY **KATE LANGRISH** PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALAMY, GETTY IMAGES, HEARST STUDIOS UK. *THIS INFORMATION IS NOT INTENDED TO REPLACE THE DIAGNOSIS OR TREATMENT OF A DOCTOR. IF YOU NOTICE MEDICAL SYMPTOMS OR FEEL ILL, CONSULT YOUR DOCTOR

20 YEARS
OF EXPLORING THE WORLD IN COMFORT
1997 - 2017



explore in Viking comfort

In Norway they call it *koselig*. In Denmark, *hygge*. At Viking we simply call it comfort. And we believe it's the only way to explore the world.

Comfort is knowing that you are completely cared for in every way. It's a glass of wine under a starlit sky. A cosy blanket and a favourite book. Good food in the company of good people. It's a feeling of contentment and wellbeing. And the reassurance of knowing that you're getting the very best value for money.

Above all, comfort is togetherness, a generosity of spirit and a very real sense of belonging. Come and explore the world in comfort with us.

2018 eight-day river cruises from £1,045pp
2018 eight-day ocean cruises from £1,790pp
To find out more or request our brochures, call 020 8780 8571 or visit vikingcruises.co.uk

Prices correct at time of going to print but are subject to change. From prices are per person and based on two people sharing the lowest grade stateroom available on Romantic Danube river cruise, departing on selected dates in 2018 and Iconic Western Mediterranean ocean cruise, departing on selected dates in 2018. Prices valid until 31 July 2017. Single supplements apply. For more information please visit vikingcruises.co.uk/terms-conditions or call us.

ABTA
ABTA No.V924X

WINNER BRITISH TRAVEL AWARDS BEST RIVER CRUISE LINE 2010 - 2016

VIKING CRUISES
Exploring the World in Comfort®

Under the sun

Use natural scrubs and nourishing oils to leave skin radiant and ready for summer

WORDS BY **KATE LANGRISH**

The British summer doesn't always guarantee balmy T-shirt weather but, when the sun comes out, it's great to feel confident that your skin is looking its best. A simple strategy of exfoliation, intense hydration and a little firming is the answer.

KEEP IT NATURAL

Elbows, knees and shins can all suffer from dry, flaky areas, and the backs of arms can become rough and bumpy. Body scrubs will tackle problem areas, but avoid any with plastic microbeads, which work their way into the sea and damage marine life (see page 51). Instead, opt for natural exfoliators, such as those that include salt, sugar, ground nuts and seeds.

REN Kelp and Magnesium Salt Anti-Fatigue Exfoliating Body Scrub (£26, renskincare.com) uses salt to remove dry skin and seaweed to nourish – rub it over problem areas, then rinse off in the shower. For a scrub that's gentle enough to use every day, try Kind Natured Foaming Sugar Scrub in Moisturising Coconut & Monoi (£4.99, boots.com) – it even smells of summer.

Rub Natura Bissé C+C Vitamin Scrub (£58, feelunique.com), with its wonderful citrus scent, on feet once a week – paying particular attention to the heels – and you'll avoid the hard, cracked skin that not only looks unsightly in sandals but which feels very sore, too.





FIRM AND SCULPT

A combination of ageing, sun exposure and pregnancy can mean that skin on the upper arms, thighs, bust and stomach often starts to lose firmness. Building or maintaining the muscles underneath will help to add definition, but skin can also be given a helping hand with the latest sculpting creams and lotions. New L'Occitane Almond Refining Concentrate (£45, uk.loccitane.com) contains pressed almond extract, which aids in firming, while the rich cream leaves it silky soft. Use Guinot Sculpt Expert (£46.75, feelunique.com) every day for a few weeks and you should see improvements in tone and elasticity thanks to seaweed extract, which helps to maintain collagen in the skin. Tackle the tell-tale dimpling of cellulite with Clarins Body Fit Anti-Cellulite Contouring Expert (£39, clarins.com), which has quince leaf, caffeine and horse chestnut to smooth and firm.

If your job means you have long spells sitting down or standing up, hot weather can leave legs feeling very heavy and even a little puffy by the end of the day. Massage in new Sisley White Ginger Contouring Oil for Legs (£115, sisley-paris.com) in upward sweeps – the white ginger and ginkgo have a draining action, while rosemary helps to tone.

SOOTHE AND HYDRATE

The drying effect of the sun means skin can need extra hydration in the summer months. Body oils are particularly effective as they lock in moisture (especially if applied to damp skin immediately after a shower) and leave a delicate sheen on arms and legs.

De Mamiel Botaniques Salvation Body Oil (£75, demamiel.com) contains argan oil and prickly pear oil, which are rich in essential fatty acids to help repair and protect skin. Rosewood, bergamot and sandalwood essential oils also provide a wonderful aromatic scent. For a lighter oil and more floral fragrance, Korres Antiageing Body Oil in Santorini Vine (£24, johnbellcroyden.co.uk) uses sweet almond and apricot oil, and smells of blossoming vineyards.

Shins and knees can become particularly dry during the summer, so try This Works Skin

Summer skin often needs extra hydration

made by
JIM LAWRENCE



A NEW CLASSIC

Introducing our latest outdoor light

See the full collection
Call for your free brochure
T: 01473 826933
WWW.JIM-LAWRENCE.CO.UK

RHS CHELSEA
GARDEN PRODUCT OF THE YEAR 2017
FINALIST

LIGHTING & HOME



Deep Dry Leg Oil (£25, thisworks.com), which contains rose and evening primrose oil to nourish, with aloe vera to help soothe any irritation.

If the sun's rays have caught you out and you're a little sunburnt, avoid oils and instead opt for the calming properties of Neal's Yard Remedies After Sun Spray (£6.50, nealsyardremedies.com) – a cooling gel treatment with camomile and aloe vera. Clinique After Sun Rescue Balm (£20, clinique.co.uk) also contains aloe, and has a light gel-like texture that sinks into skin.

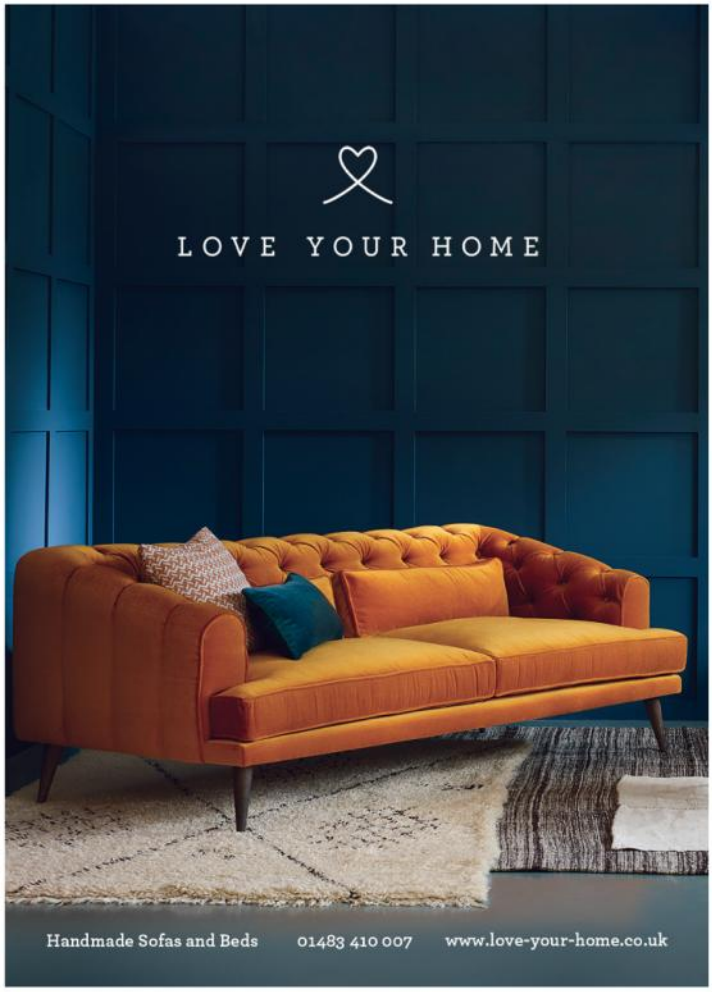
STAY SUN-SAFE

The health benefits of vitamin D are well documented but, depending on your skin type, you only need around 15 minutes' exposure each day to top up levels. At other times, it's still important to protect skin from the sun's rays when you're out and about – to help reduce the risk of cancer and also its ageing effect.

There are a growing number of physical, rather than chemical, sunscreens available. These contain a physical block with zinc oxide or titanium dioxide, and reflect sun off the skin. Both Odylique Natural Sun Screen SPF30 (£25, odylique.co.uk) and Green People Scent Free Sun Lotion SPF30 (£14.50, greenpeople.co.uk) are suitable for even the most sensitive of skins. If you're out walking or playing on the beach, opt for Bare Republic High Protection Mineral Sunscreen Sport SPF50 (£17, feelgoodmatters.com), which is water- and sweat-resistant.

For more than a sun-kissed look, the safest way to achieve it is with self tan. The latest formulations have less of the 'biscuity' smell to them, and contain natural ingredients that help nourish skin and prolong a natural colour. The Organic Pharmacy Self Tan (£36.95, theorganicpharmacy.com) is derived from sugar beet and contains coconut oil and shea butter to keep skin smooth. If you're short of time, Vita Liberata Ten Minute Tan (£29.95, vitaliberata.com) is an organic lotion that's absorbed in just a few minutes before being showered off and develops over the next four hours. It also contains rose and neroli oil to improve skin elasticity.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALAMY; ELSA DILLON/CAMERA PRESS







MONTPELIER

GARDEN ROOMS • ORANGERIES • WINDOWS • BI-FOLDS



Accoya's Key Features:

- Dimensionally Stable
- Outstanding Durability
- Perfect for Coating
- Sustainably Sourced

MADE WITH accoya

Garden Rooms, Orangeries, Windows & Bi-Folds

FREE SITE SURVEY NATIONWIDE • 50 YEAR ACCOYA TIMBER WARRANTY

Call: 01384 279933 - Email: info@montpelierjoinery.com - Visit: www.montpelierjoinery.com

From the makers of PRIME OAK www.primeoak.co.uk

The Interflora *Country Living Collection*

Send a special summer message with a beautiful hand-tied bouquet



PHOTOGRAPH BY CAROLINE ARBER. *SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY

THE CREATIVE STYLISTS AT COUNTRY LIVING have teamed up with the flower experts at Interflora to produce a range of stunning floral arrangements in stylish combinations of colour and texture.

The latest seasonal arrangment available in the range is the Country Living White Elegance Hand-Tied (above), priced £45. This elegant bouquet showcases the natural beauty of flawless white flowers and fresh dark-green foliage and herbs. Lavish large-headed roses are carefully hand-tied with delicate lisianthus and pretty spray roses, while fresh rosemary adds a subtle fragrance, too. The arrangement features two white lisianthus, three white large-headed roses and three white spray roses with rosemary and variegated pittosporum, wrapped in toning tissue and finished with a Country Living satin ribbon, tag and gift card.

For more details and to order, visit interflora.co.uk/country-living.*



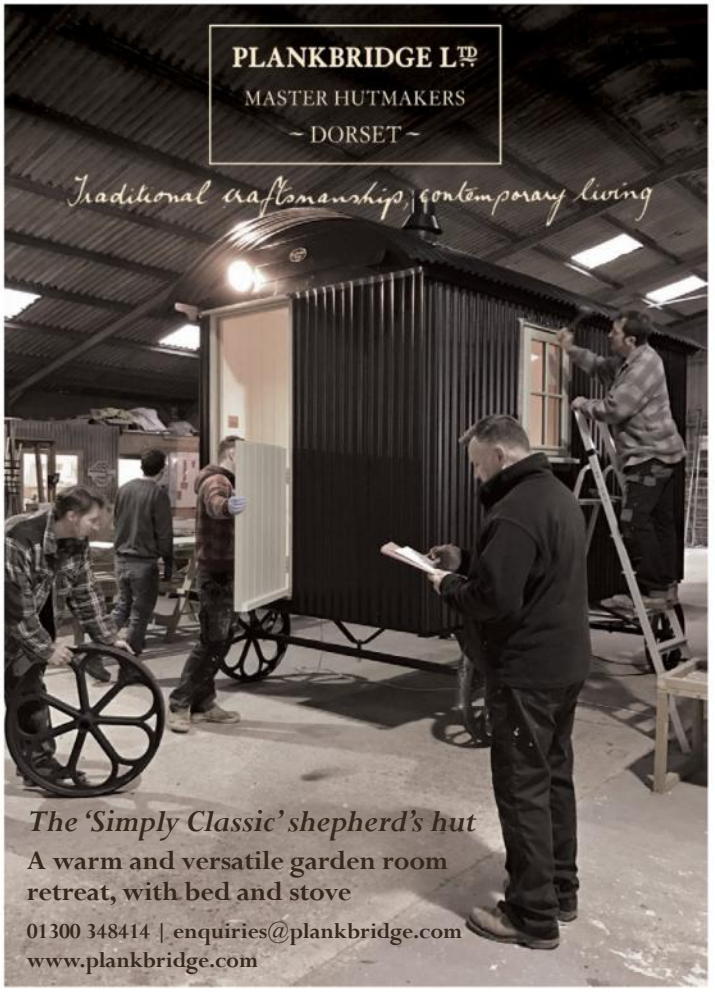
where to buy

Stockists in this issue



A **ADVENTINO** adventino.co.uk
B **B&Q** 0333 014 3098; diy.com **BARBOUR** barbour.com **BLACK BOUGH** 01584 877948; blackbough.co.uk **BODEN** 0330 333 0000; boden.co.uk **BUY THE SEA** buythesea.co.uk
C **THE CONRAN SHOP** 0844 848 4000; conranshop.co.uk **CREAM CORNWALL** creamcornwall.co.uk **CURLEW COTTAGE DESIGN** curlewcottagedesign.co.uk **CURTAIN YOUR HOME** 01269 825796; curtainyourhome.co.uk
D **DECORATOR'S NOTEBOOK** 0845 474 1747; decoratorsnotebook.co.uk **DE LE CUONA** delecuona.com **DESIGN VINTAGE** 01243 573852; designvintage.co.uk **DFS** 0808 273 9565; dfs.co.uk **DOWN TO EARTH GIFTS** 01948 780377; downtoearthgift.co.uk
E **EBAY** ebay.co.uk **ESPRESSODRINKER** espressodrinker.co.uk **ETSY** etsy.com
F **FABRIC-ONLINE** 0871 423 2806; fabric-online.co.uk **FUTURE AND FOUND** futureandfound.com
G **GARDEN TRADING** 01993 845559; gardentrading.co.uk **GLOVER & SMITH** 01722 741096; gloverandsmith.co.uk **GRATTIFY** grattify.com
H **HOBBYCRAFT** 0330 026 1400; hobbycraft.co.uk **HOME BARN** homebarnshop.co.uk
I **IAN MANKIN** 020 7722 0997; ianmankin.co.uk **IKEA** 020 3645 0000; ikea.co.uk
J **JAMB** jamb.co.uk **JANE MEANS** janemeans.com **JEREMY JAMES** 01773 760167; jeremyjamesceramics.co.uk
L **LAKELAND** 01539 488100; lakeland.co.uk **LIBBY BALLARD** libbyballard.co.uk **LONDON VINTAGE PAINT COMPANY** 0333 006 2709; londonvintagepaintcompany.com **LUCKY LOBSTER ART** luckylobsterart.co.uk
M **M&S** 0333 014 8555; marksandspencer.com
N **NICOLA WATTERS** nicolawatters.com **NICOLE PHILLIPS** nicolephillips.com **NOT ON THE HIGH STREET** notonthehighstreet.com
O **OSBORNE & LITTLE** osborneandlittle.com
P **PIPII** 01342 823921; pipii.co.uk
R **ROYAL ACADEMY SHOP** 0800 634 6341; shop.royalacademy.org.uk
S **ST EVAL CANDLE COMPANY** 01841 540850; stevalcandlecompany.co.uk **ST JUDE'S** 01603 662951; stjudesfabrics.co.uk **SEAFORTH DESIGNS** seaforthdesigns.com **SEASALT** 01326 640075; seasaltcornwall.co.uk **STEVE DUFFY DESIGNS** steveduffydesigns.co.uk
T **TEMPTATION GIFTS** 01494 790424; temptationgifts.com
V **VILLA NOVA** 01623 756699; villanova.co.uk







"FETCH!"

Witty aprons, mugs for mutts and cards for canines, are just a few of our new gift ranges. Our aprons are beautifully made using luxuriously thick organic cotton, screen printed in England by hand with a caption any cook will enjoy £25.
Our adorable dachshund mug is both dishwasher and microwave safe £15.95.
www.wildgrouse.com





COSY ROOM DESIGNS

A delightful range of greetings cards, gifts, and prints to bring personality to your home. Featuring hand-drawn illustrations and cute phrases, often with a touch of humour and good old-fashioned lovey-stuff. Many designs can be personalised. We also offer unique hand-painted vintage furniture for your country home. New designs and products are always being added.
www.cosyroomdesigns.com

Home comforts

You and your home



EDWARD BULMER NATURAL PAINT

Recently hailed as one of the top 50 British brands for your home. Natural paint as ethical and eco-friendly as it is beautiful – and as robust as synthetic paint. One of the design world's best kept secrets. All you need to do is decide on your colours. Call 01544 388535 or **www.edwardbulmerpaint.co.uk** for your complimentary colour chart.



WONDERFULLY WIGGLY ANIMALS

These playful creatures are made from stretched and coiled wire, cross-wrapped around a frame and then nickel-plated. Lambs, ducklings, piglets and chickens are approximately 14cm x 10cm x 6cm and are £12.50 each, while sheep, ducks, pigs and roosters are approximately 20cm x 18cm x 12cm and are £23 each, all plus p&p.
You will find beautiful gifts, including a range of personalised items, for you, your home, your friends and family at **www.craftworksgallery.co.uk**, or ring us on 01434 634500.



CLASSIC AND ELEGANT CUTLERY DESIGNED FOR MODERN LIVING

This delightful range is Old English mirror finish stainless steel with dishwasher safe cream handled knives.
Exclusive price – Set for six people at £300, this includes six seven-piece place settings (as shown) and two table spoons.
A set for four people costs £220.
Prices include VAT and UK delivery.
www.glazebrook.com
Tel: 020 7731 7135.

THE PERFECT SUMMER ACCESSORIES

(saving over 20% off RRP)

Franchetti Bond are delighted to offer readers of *Country Living* this exclusive offer for Summer 2017. Known for our elegant leather goods and accessories which are exquisitely made and classic in design, Franchetti Bond are offering *Country Living* readers the opportunity to purchase a coordinating bag and shoe combination that will perfectly accompany your choice of special outfit for summer weddings and society events.

Beautifully designed the Bia bag is a classic shoulder bag, beautifully crafted in fine Italian leather in classic navy or neutral beige. The bag has been accessorised with smart gold detailing and can be worn as a classic shoulder bag with short strap or used as a cross body bag with a longer detachable strap.

Especially selected to be worn with the Bia bag, the Rita heeled ballet shoe is crafted in two-tone navy and white or nude and beige quilted leather, the design is finished with a patent toe cap and bow detail. These classic shoes, with small block heel will perfectly complement a special outfit. Teamed with the Bia bag the overall look will be both elegant and chic.

The perfect summer occasion outfit – elegant, stylish and classic.



BIA BAG: RRP £129.95. OFFER PRICE £99.95 SAVING £30

Colours available: Navy or Beige
Dimension: Height 18cm, Width 22cm , Depth 8.5cm, Strap Drop 19cm

RITA HEELED BALLET SHOE: RRP £110 OFFER PRICE £90 SAVING £20

Colours: Navy/White or Nude/Beige
Sizes 35-42 (no half sizes)
Heel Height: 3cm





TO ORDER

Call 01962 733135 quoting CL04 or visit www.franchettibond.co.uk/country

Terms & conditions Orderline 01962 733135* – quote offer ref CL04. Call centre opening hours: Mon-Fri 9.30am -5.30pm. If you are not happy with your order for any reason we will accept the return of faulty/unused goods in its original packaging for refund or replacement within 30 days. This does not affect your statutory rights. Orders usually delivered within seven working days. A signature is required upon delivery. Customers will not be charged until the goods are ready for despatch. Postage is £3.95 and applies to UK mainland only. Overseas postage is £12 to Europe and £25 to the rest of the World. All offers are subject to availability. All products are purchased from, and your resulting contract will be with, Franchetti Bond Ltd (registered in England no 2446939), a company wholly independent of Hearst Magazines UK. For customer service enquiries please call +44 (0) 1962 733135. All offers are subject to availability. We take reasonable care to ensure that all images, descriptions, details and measurements of products appearing on the site are correct. However, due to a multitude of factors such as monitor colour contrast, Internet browsers, etc., we do not warrant that the product descriptions, colours or other content on the site are accurate, complete, current, error-free or reliable. *Calls from landlines are charged at the standard national rate; calls from mobiles may cost more.



CUBA

100% cotton. £55 plus p&p.
Striped sweater knitted in vegas and natural washed out, features a beautiful hand-embroidered edging at the neck, hem and cuffs. Available from our store **www.originalblues.uk** or phone 01635 867165.



STYLISH WIDE FITTING SHOES

Wider Fit Shoes Ltd offers stylish, affordable shoes to fit you perfectly – whatever your width. Today, they are the leading supplier of wide-fitting shoes in the UK, offering footwear from EE through to 8E fittings. Their entire range of shoes and slippers are adjustable, durable, lightweight and flexible and every purchase is backed by their no quibble guarantee. No wonder they're recommended by foot health professionals nationwide. For a free, colour catalogue or more information please call 01933 311077 or order securely online at **www.widerfitshoes.co.uk** Please quote CLX1722M for 10% off your first order.

FINE FASHION – MADE IN ENGLAND



We all want to look and feel fabulous, and it's never been easier to achieve, thanks to David Nieper's new collection of timeless classics, luxury knitwear and stylish separates. Each piece is lovingly made in their Derbyshire studios from the finest quality fabrics. Expert designers and seamstresses create styles to fit all sizes, each finished with the greatest of care for comfort, quality and style. *Statement Jersey Top £95, style 6960.* Shop online at **davidnieper.co.uk** or call **01773 83 6000** for a catalogue. Quote code CL47.

Summer picks

This month's must-haves

LOOK YOUNGER LONGER WITH REGENTIV



For diminishing facial lines, crepey eyes, sun and skin damage. The Specialist Serum with advanced formula – Retinol, Vitamin E, Aloe Vera and SPF can help you transform the future of your skin. *£29.95 30ml, £44.95 50ml, £79.95 100ml, £149 200ml.*
For the ultimate boost add Regentiv's Super Serum with D.M.A.E. Retinol, Vitamins C & E, Seaweed Extracts. Minimises facial sagging, stimulates cell growth, tightens and firms. *£39.95 30ml, 90ml £99, £225 200ml.*



To claim your exclusive 10% reader discount apply code CLIVING7 at checkout. **www.regentiv.co.uk** To speak to a Regentiv advisor or order, call 01923 212555. FREE P&P.



FENTIMANS

Fentimans have been making botanically brewed drinks for over 100 years. Every bottle of Fentimans is hand crafted and brewed for seven days using the finest natural ingredients and selected botanicals. The latest addition to the range is Pink Grapefruit Tonic Water, which is perfect for mixing with premium gin or vodka, for a refreshing and zesty drink. Pink Grapefruit Tonic Water 500ml is available at selected Waitrose stores. For more information visit **www.fentimans.com**



KRILL OIL – THE NEW SUPER OMEGA 3

Research now shows that krill oil is superior to fish oil due to its unique phospholipid superstructure omega 3, antioxidants and brain nutrient choline. Krill oil is now seen as the gold standard in omega 3 supplements. Silvertown Health krill oil is eco-harvested to protect nature deep in the purest Antarctic seas to provide unparalleled omega 3 quality. RRP £24.95 – CL Offer only £16.97 + p&p (60 capsules up to two months supply) plus CL readers also get two free home spa face masks with their first order. Online order/ more info **www.silvertownhealth.co.uk** or Tel 24 Hour Order Line – 0345 0956903.





BLACKDOWN SHEPHERD HUTS

Blackdown Shepherd Huts create luxury retreats for the garden for all the family to enjoy. Perfect as summer houses or winter lodges, these year-round traditional huts will last for generations to come. Blackdown Shepherd Huts are beautifully designed to make the best out of the room they have in order to create a very special addition to your home.
www.blackdownshepherdhuts.co.uk

Luxury living

Update your living space



NATIONWIDE

Make the most of your garden this summer with a bespoke awning from Nationwide. Providing a fresh appearance to your home's exterior, you can stay protected from the sun at the push of a button, and enjoy a cool and comfortable shady retreat. Nationwide offers a variety of styles and finishes, custom made to suit your property, with full installation service and five year guarantee.
Nationwide is currently holding a summer sale, with discounts of up to 25%.
For a free brochure, visit **nationwideltd.co.uk** or call 0800 825 0548.



FLOOR FRIENDLY...

The SEBO automatic X4 Pet Boost takes the hard work out of housework. Easy to use, its computer control system automatically ensures optimum performance, whilst a unique boost button gives more intensive cleaning for stubborn fibre and pet hair. It goes flat to clean under furniture and comes with an instant use wand, extra-long hose system and mini turbo brush. An odour filter ensures that even smells cannot escape from this high quality cleaning machine. Made in Germany it is backed by a free five year guarantee. Call 01494 465533 or visit **www.sebo.co.uk**



SWOON EDITIONS

Swoon Editions is an online furniture retailer specialising in beautiful, crafted furniture at honest prices. The Henkel's mid-century look makes an elegant display for your favourite trinkets or tipples, while the handy drawer at the bottom offers hideaway storage too. Just ~~£449~~, including delivery, readers also save 15% on their first order with voucher code COUNTRYSPRING. To order, simply go to **swooneditions.com/countryliving** or call 020 3137 2464. Offer expires 28.06.17.

COUNTRY COLLECTIONS



JIJIMA

Enjoy the charm of colourful ethnic contemporary handicraft. Our aesthetic offers original, exquisite block printed textiles and home décor in bold and bright handmade designs. We bring colour and beautiful patterns to your homes.
www.jijimacrafts.com
Instagram: @jijima



A TOAST TO THE PAST

A stupendously eclectic mix of antiques and curios from a bygone era.
UK and International shipping.
Discounts available!
Matthew John Cook
www.etsy.com/shop/atoasttothepast



THESE PLEASE

These Please design beautiful ceramic door knobs for kitchen units and bedroom furniture, including this stunning "Cornflower Meadow" set of 20 mixed designs (£59.99).
Order at **www.theseplease.co.uk**
or call 01435 817153.
Use code CNL10 to save 10% on your first order.



ANGIE TRUMAN FELTWORK

Stylish, indulgent homeware and featherweight wraps by Angie Truman Feltwork. Her hand felted scarves are especially lovely for chilly evening breezes. Original designs in fine cotton, merino wool and alpaca, inspired by the Cornish coastline.
www.angietrumanfeltwork.co.uk



THE IRON GARDEN

Add a touch of warmth, to those cosy nights outdoors. Hand crafted in Norfolk, England. This iron fire pit, will become to focal point, for any family gathering.
www.theirongarden.co.uk



SEW SAL

Brighten up your home with colourful birds and floral designs. These hand-embroidered hoops are the perfect gift or a treat for yourself. Designed and stitched by Sally Mayer of Sew Sal.
www.etsy.com/uk/shop/SewSalShop
info.sewsal@gmail.com instagram: @sew_sal



POTTER AND MOOCH

British designer specialising in textile design, soft furnishings and Ear Wings climbing earrings for a single piercing. Handmade on 925 Sterling Silver, 14ct Rose or Yellow Gold Filled wires with SWAROVSKI Elements.
From £18.50 per pair.
www.potterandmooch.co.uk
Tel: 07703 785527



CHINASEARCH

Whether you're looking to replace a broken cup or extend your existing dinner set, Chinasearch specialises in discontinued china with over 300,000 items in stock. Search online or call 01926 512402.
www.chinasearch.co.uk



SNUG HOME DESIGN

Based in Dorset, we hand make cushions, footstools and throws by blending classic fabrics with contemporary design. Working with materials made in the UK or responsibly sourced, every item is handmade and unique, adding vitality and style to your interior space. Commissions taken.
www.snughomedesign.com

FOR DETAILS OF CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING PLEASE TELEPHONE 020 3728 6260 OR VISIT WWW.HEARSTMAGAZINESDIRECT.CO.UK

COUNTRY COLLECTIONS



ISLAND BAKERY ORGANICS

All butter, organic biscuits with character from the Hebridean Isle of Mull. Our bakery is entirely powered by locally generated, sustainable energy. Available in good delicatessens, farm shops and selected branches of Booths and Waitrose.
www.islandbakery.co.uk



THE ROCKING HORSE SHOP LTD

Designers, Makers & Restorers of beautiful hand carved rocking horses since 1976. All our horses are made in our workshops in Yorkshire. We also supply plans, books, DVD's, courses, timber and accessories for restorers and hobbyists of all abilities.
www.rockinghorse.co.uk
01759 368737



TRANSFORM YOUR SKIN AND HAIR...

with a Mulberry Silk Pillow Case. They assist in wrinkle prevention and add shine to your hair. Also cool to sleep on and hypoallergenic benefiting those with asthma and eczema. In a choice of colours and at £14.95, they are the ideal luxury gift. Machine Washable. Cotton backed to prevent slipping.
www.thecleverlittlepillowcase.bigcartel.com



BRUME

Brume window film replicates the look of etched glass and is perfect for windows where you need privacy but don't want to sacrifice natural light . Easy to apply, made to measure or by the metre.
www.brume.co.uk



LINNEA DESIGNS

Linnea Nicholson discovered her artistic interests early on through drawing and painting. She produces ceramic wares and fabric designs that combine a British illustrative insight with a special Scandinavian feel for functionality instilled in her during her Swedish childhood.
www.linneadesigns.co.uk



JACQUELINE MILTON

We are a Dorset textile company offering a collection of printed linens based on Jacqueline's original paintings and floral studies. The collections have been designed to mix and match using a palette of gentle, chalky colours creating relaxed, country elegance.
www.jacquelinemilton.co.uk



PERFECT FATHERS DAY GIFT

The perfect starter kit for someone looking to try their hand at making their own cider for the first time.
Available in three different sizes.
Check our website for further details.
www.vigopresses.co.uk
Tel: 01404 890 093



LOULLYMAKES DESIGNS

Out-of-the-ordinary accessories and homewares, carefully handmade in Scotland. LoullyMakes designs combine traditional Scottish Tweeds, Exclusive Tartans and original Art Fabrics in a focused collection of thoughtfully created items, focusing on effortless style and comfort.
www.loullymakesdesigns.com



OSSIANS LEATHER

Handcrafted in the War Horse Country, Devon. Men and Women's Quality Leather Satchels, handbags, briefcases, washbags and beltbags.
Unique, authentic and crafted for longevity. Personalisation and bespoke commissions also undertaken.
See 'shop' at **www.ossiansleather.co.uk**

COASTAL COLLECTIONS



KUISHI

Kuishi is a home and lifestyle brand based in Cornwall. Kuishi's ethos is to embrace living a simpler life with products that bring joy to the home as well as showing consideration for the environment.
www.kuishi.co.uk



LILLIPUT DORSET GIN

Lilliput Dorset Gin is distilled with pride in Dorset from rosemary, basil, thyme and organic olives. Created to capture the spirit of summer on the Dorset coastline. Long Live Summer.
Find out more at **Lilliput-Gin.com**



DEBBIE BELLABY ILLUSTRATION

Contemporary family portraits by a professional illustrator. Bespoke, detailed, highly personal and completed in watercolour. A thoughtful and original gift. Perfect for a milestone birthday or anniversary. Family beach scenes and weddings are welcomed.
www.debbiebellaby.com



DUPERE DESIGN

Devon based interior design company, Dupere Design, has a beautiful showroom full of interesting and useful things for the home. Perfect for indoors and out, the Weaver Green textiles feel like wool but are made entirely from recycled bottles. The blankets, rugs and bags are available in a range of gorgeous colours and patterns. **www.duperedesign.com**



MELISSA WILKINSON JEWELLERY

Melissa's handcrafted 'Beachcomber Collection' is inspired by our British coastlines. Melissa discovers natural treasures left by the tide such as starfish, urchins and cockle-shells. These are then transformed, capturing their finest detail, into stunning silver jewellery.
www.melissawilkinson.co.uk



BEAN & BOY

Bean & Boy make all-natural soaps by hand in Southend-on-Sea using responsibly-sourced vegan ingredients, pure essential oils and traditional methods. Inspired by nature, designed for sensitive skin and loved by families. Nothing artificial: no SLS, no parabens.
www.beanandboy.com
hello@beanandboy.com



JEN LARKIN ART EDITIONS

Be inspired by colour, light and landscape this summer. Visit the NEW collection of limited edition prints and original paintings, by contemporary British artist Jen Larkin.
www.jenlarkin.co.uk



MACRAME ADVENTURE

Macramé is back in a modern way. Wiltshire based macramé artist Louise Summersgill creates contemporary pieces for your home from plant hangers, wall hangings and lanterns to macramé wedding arches for your special day. Custom orders and collaborations are welcome.
etsy.com/uk/shop/MacrameAdventure



COAST & COUNTRY COTTAGES

Choose from around 400 holiday properties in Salcombe, Dartmouth and throughout South Devon. From romantic hideaways and beautifully renovated farmhouses, to luxury waterside apartments and cosy thatched cottages, we can help you choose the right one for your holiday. Call 01548 843773 or book online **coastandcountry.co.uk**

FOR DETAILS OF CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING PLEASE **TELEPHONE 020 3728 6260 OR VISIT WWW.HEARSTMAGAZINESDIRECT.CO.UK**

IDYLLIC ESCAPES



BRECON BEACONS HOLIDAY COTTAGES

For that perfect break, we have over 350 great cottages in superb locations in and around the Brecon Beacons National Park, Black Mountains and Wye Valley. Romantic cottages for 2 people, rustic farmhouses and large country houses some sleeping 20, with oak beams and open fires. Pretty villages, good pubs, hill walking, pony trekking, mountain biking and fishing. Pets Welcome.

www.breconcottages.com 01874 749914



DISCOVER REAL SPAIN

Look forward to your holiday at our secluded watermill in the heart of Andalucia where you can unwind in a lush, wooded river valley. Wonderful for walking, wildlife, mountain biking or simply relaxing in this peaceful haven. Holidays of any duration with a choice of 4 individual properties. 40' eco pool, bar, gym, free wi-fi, 90 minutes from Malaga airport, good access to Granada, Cordoba and Seville.

www.ratonera.com. 07706 853983(UK)



RURAL RETREATS

Over 450 luxury self-catering holiday properties sleeping 2-24 in the UK and Ireland. A Rural Retreats property has been carefully chosen for its beautiful interior as well as idyllic setting. From cosy cottages to country houses and lighthouses to windmills, there's sure to be a property that will be perfect for you and your family. Dogs welcome.

Request your FREE 2017 Brochure now.
www.ruralretreats.co.uk
01386 897 959



ISLE OF WIGHT AND DORSET HOLIDAY COTTAGES

Charming cottages in beautiful rural and coastal locations situated throughout the Isle of Wight & Purbeck, Dorset. Pretty thatched cottages, farmhouses, stone cottages with stunning sea views in picturesque villages. Some cottages with swimming pools. Graded by the tourist board 3 - 5 Stars.

Telephone 01929 481555
www.islandcottageholidays.com
www.purbeckcottageholidays.com



GOWER PENINSULA PENRICE CASTLE COTTAGES

16 secluded holiday cottages on an 18th century Estate with historic park and gardens close to Oxwich Bay.

01792 391212
www.penricecastle.co.uk



WILDERNESS COTTAGES THROUGHOUT SCOTLAND

Quality self catering cottages, houses and apartments, throughout Scotland. Countryside to seashore, rustic to 5 star luxury. Short breaks available & pets welcome. New 2017 Brochure Available.

Tel: 01463 719219
www.wildernesscottages.co.uk



CREEKSIDE COTTAGES

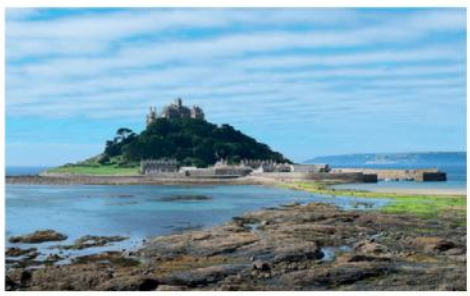
Near Falmouth, Cornwall
Waters-edge, village and rural cottages sleeping 2 - 8. Enchanting picturesque positions, peaceful and comfortable. Open fires. Dogs welcome. Available throughout the year.

For our colour brochure, please call 01326 375972 or visit our web site
www.creeksidecottages.co.uk



NORTHUMBERLAND SELF CATERING

from the county's first & only Visit England Quality Accredited Agency, **www.staynorthumbria.co.uk**. Choose & book with confidence from a selection of over 90 properties to suit all tastes and pockets, from: coastal fisherman's retreats for 2, to a converted Mill for 36. Dogs & kids welcome too. For Winter, Spring & Summer breaks of 2 to 7 nights, a brisk walk on the beach, a castle or two to visit, and afternoon tea in front of the fire to return to. **Visit our website or ring us on 01665 721380 – what could be simpler?**



ST MICHAEL'S COASTAL COTTAGES

Seaside family holiday or romantic break for two. Delightful self-catering properties sleeping 2–10 in the ancient town of Marazion, gateway to St Michael's Mount. Most have sea & Mount views, dogs welcome, log fires, available all year round.

www.stmichaelscoastalcottages.com
Tel 01736 711098

COUNTRY DIRECTORY

Arts, Crafts & Gifts

THE OAK AND ROPE COMPANY



WWW.THEOAKANDROPECOMPANY.CO.UK 01227 469 413

YOUR TAPESTRIES & NEEDLEWORKS....
Beautifully stretched and made-up into cushions, wall hangings, bell-pulls, rugs, etc. Experienced professional quality 21 day service. Unfinished tapestries and needleworks completed. Designs painted on canvas. Specialist framing service. Multi-panel rugs completed and made-up. www.sarabarnsneedlework.co.uk
SARA BARNS NEEDLEWORK The Old Swan, 5 School Road, Great Massingham, Norfolk PE32 2JA
TEL. 01485 520151



Twines, Garden Gifts, Crafts. Buy online at www.nutscene.com

House & Garden

Back from Black
Beam Renovation Ltd
RENOVATING BEAMS SINCE 1997



BEAMS RENOVATED WITHOUT MESS!
A UNIQUE PROCESS - NO BLASTING
Tel: 01797 458508
WWW.BEAM-RENOVATION.CO.UK

Björk Haraldsdóttir
Contemporary Handbuilt Ceramics
www.ceramicsbybjork.com



Home Interest

Rooms with a View



country inspired interiors from Norfolk
www.roomswithaview.co.uk



WHAT WE DO IS SIMPLE – WE BUY CANCELLED FURNITURE ORDERS, OVERRUNS AND RETURNED PRODUCTS FROM THE LEADING HIGH STREET STORES – AND ALL SOLD ...
... UP TO 60% OFF THE RETAIL PRICE.
DEFINITELY WORTH A LOOK IN STORE AND ONLINE! SEE IT, LIKE IT, BUY IT, TAKE IT WAY THE SAME DAY (or we can arrange delivery)
www.trade-secret.co.uk/CL
OXFORDSHIRE WAREHOUSE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

fairfield framing
Picture Framing Workshop in Bourne End
01628 529646
07976 883856
debparrish@aol.com
Established since 1998

BYGONE NEWSPAPERS
Anniversary & Birthday Gift Ideas



- ORIGINAL Daily Newspapers 1847 -2017
- A perfect gift to commemorate any special occasion
- Each newspaper is accompanied with a Certificate of Authenticity
- We offer a great range of high quality nostalgic gifts

For Free Details Call 01934 412844 to 8pm
Int: 00 44 1934 412844
www.bygonenews.com/clm

Crafty Jay
Pottery
Hand creams
Cushions & Bags
Cards & more
www.etsy.com/shop/craftyjayuk
www.facebook.co.uk/craftyjay.co.uk

FabricWorld
"Top quality reasonably priced!" Curtains, blinds and pelmets etc made to measure & installed. Thousands of fabrics, poles etc.
Call now for a home visit by a professional Interior Designer
0208 688 6282 Croydon
01372 723 640 Epsom
fabricworldlondon.co.uk

FOR DETAILS OF CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING PLEASE TELEPHONE 020 3728 6260 OR VISIT WWW.HEARSTMAGAZINESDIRECT.CO.UK



WROUGHT IRON & BRASS BED CO.

Wrought Iron and Brass Bed Co.
Hand Made in Norfolk, England

Summer Sale

1st June - 30th June

01485 542516
www.wroughtironandbrassbed.co.uk

Removable, washable and now even more affordable at just £349



Newport 2 seater sofa was £469 - now only £349

Made in Great Britain

Oakridge Sofas

Call now on 01685 844944
www.oakridgedirect.co.uk



BEAUTIFUL, MADE-TO-MEASURE AWNINGS BY EDEN

- Remote control, integrated lights and heaters available
- Up to 99.9% UV protection
- Over 150 fabrics to choose from
- Retracts into fully encompassing cassette
- Professional installation service
- Complete with 5 Year Guarantee

CALL FOR A FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATION AND BROCHURE

0800 157 1677 Quoting CL31/05A

www.edenverandas.co.uk

*Correct at time of printing, please see website for latest offers. Terms & conditions apply.

eden VERANDAS

Thomas Lloyd

Makers of Fine Leather Furniture for Generations



CHESTERFIELD 2 SEATER SOFA

WAS £1159 - NOW ONLY £799

- British Standard tested and approved
- Made in our own UK factory
- Direct from the factory prices
- 21 day money-back promise
- 2 year guarantee

Great British Furniture

To view our entire range or to order your free colour brochure call **01443 771222** or visit

www.thomaslloyd.com

GREAT BRITISH SOFAS

Direct from the Manufacturer



www.sofasofa.co.uk

For a free colour brochure call 01495 244226



FOR DETAILS OF CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING PLEASE TELEPHONE 020 3728 6260 OR VISIT WWW.HEARSTMAGAZINESDIRECT.CO.UK



All the ingredients for a perfect kitchen

Whether its traditional or classic, fitted or freestanding, our kitchens and bathrooms are refreshingly different. Register online for a brochure and free no obligation design service.

Commissions fulfilled throughout UK, Europe and worldwide.

Hope House High Street Moreton-in-Marsh Glos GL56 0LH
www.unfitted.co.uk info@unfitted.co.uk 01608 650065

britannia Taste is everything · EVERHOT · LACANCHE · NEFF · SILESTONE

Lovely hand built kitchens – at equally lovely prices.



TOUCH AND FEEL IN STORE OR VISIT US ONLINE

CREAMERY *Kitchens*

Lynx Trading Estate, YEOVIL BA20 2HL T: 01935 434700
www.creamerykitchens.co.uk

Call for a FREE brochure

CLR JUN17

The finest of British Country Outbuildings



Oak Fronted Carriage Houses & Stand Alone Timber Garages

ALSO GARDEN STUDIOS EQUESTRIAN BUILDINGS AND SPORTS PAVILIONS

PASSMORES

Est 1909

High Street, Strood, Kent ME2 4DR

Tel: 01634 290033

www.passmores.co.uk • info@passmores.co.uk





CONTEMPORARY | TRADITIONAL | WOOD | GLASS | STEEL

With minimal hassle or mess and no structural work, as well as a 10 year guarantee and finance options, we make it easier than ever to renovate your existing or create a new staircase.

CALL 0800 612 8643
www.jamesgrace.co.uk

FINANCE OPTIONS AVAILABLE

James Grace
Inspirational staircases

TRADITIONAL BRITISH UPHOLSTERY



Windsor 3 seater sofa was £1039- now only £779

● 21 day home trial ● 5 year hardwood frame warranty ● Direct from the manufacturer

www.kirkdale.co.uk

MADE IN UK

Call for your free brochure 01495 243999

SCUMBLE GOOSIE

"Extraordinary name. Extraordinary furniture."



HANDMADE HARDWOOD FURNITURE
BESPOKE SERVICE AVAILABLE
01453 731305
www.scumblegoosie.com



Weathervanes . Swinging Signs . Made in the UK
www.blackfoxmetalcraft.co.uk 0161 681 4293



www.thefootstoolworkshop.co.uk
01443 831981



www.nigeltyas.co.uk
01226 766618
IRONWORK
-from-
NIGEL TYAS
DISCOVER OUR NEW LIGHTING COLLECTION



Your home stays safe while you're away

Who will pamper your pets, secure your home, baffle the burglars and reduce your insurance premium?

Homesitters®
We stay while you're away

To book, or for a brochure call 01296 630 730 or visit www.homesitters.co.uk



REVIVAL BEDS

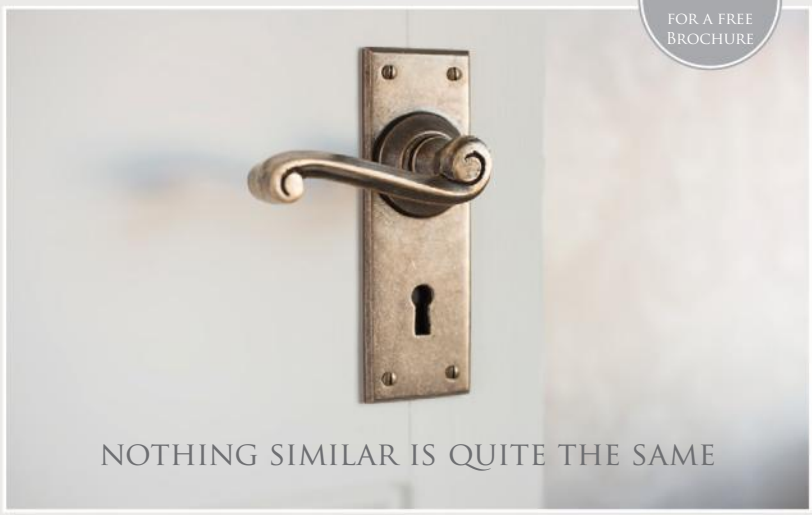
Request a brochure

revivalbeds.co.uk
01777 869 669

FOR DETAILS OF CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING PLEASE TELEPHONE 020 3728 6260 OR VISIT WWW.HEARSTMAGAZINESDIRECT.CO.UK

made by
JIM LAWRENCE

CALL
01473 826952
FOR A FREE
BROCHURE



LIGHTING & HOME
www.jim-lawrence.co.uk

For details of classified advertising
call 020 3728 6260

Fires, Stoves & Heating



Floors & Flooring



Blinds & Shutters



- One-touch control
- Battery powered
- Rechargeable & Wire-Free
- Choice of 400 stylish fabrics
- No cords – child safe

Ultra
SMART BLINDS
ONE-TOUCH CONTROL

FREE colour brochure.
Call 0800 975 5757 or visit appealshading.com

House Signs



Bathrooms

What makes an Albion bath *unique*?

Our *exclusive bath material* creates a difference you can feel.

With **over 50 models available,**
we'll have a size for bathrooms big or small.

Request your brochure
on: 01255 831605
or go to: www.albionbathco.com

THE ALBION BATH COMPANY —ENGLAND—



Furniture & Furnishings

COVELLI TENNANT
Vintage Textiles &
Bespoke Upholstery



07855 256 007
07971 043 916
www.covellitennant.com

ROCKING CHAIRS



Hand made in Rural Hampshire
www.mark-ripley.com/video

For details of classified
advertising call 020 3728 6260

Gardens & Garden Furniture

British made ironwork







catalogue available
01225 851577
www.garden-requisites.co.uk

GARDEN REQUISITES

Services



Betty's Buddies Dog Grooming

Betty's Buddies offer a full dog grooming service in Chelmsford, Essex. Working on a one to one basis, we ensure that your dog receives our undivided attention throughout the grooming process to ensure it's as stress free and as enjoyable as possible.

KATIE@BETTYSBUDDIESGROOMING.CO.UK
WWW.BETTYSBUDDIESGROOMING.CO.UK

KATHARINE DAVIES PHOTOGRAPHY

Based in Sherborne, Dorset. Specialising in natural reportage, lifestyle and portrait photography.



01935 813374
info@katharinedaviesphotography.co.uk
www.katharinedaviesgraphy.co.uk

fairfield framing

Picture Framing Workshop
in Bourne End

01628 529646
07976 883856
debparrish@aol.com
Established since 1998

MYLLBANK BOARDING CATTERY

A family run establishment located in the peaceful countryside just off junction 10 (M20). Grooming and special dietry requirements can be catered for. competitive rates.

www.myllbankcattery.co.uk
01233 732284

framebow
CONTEMPORARY ANIMAL HOUSING
www.framebow.co.uk



FOR DETAILS OF CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING PLEASE TELEPHONE 020 3728 6260 OR VISIT WWW.HEARSTMAGAZINESDIRECT.CO.UK

hayloft

rare | unusual | exciting



WISTERIA

AMETHYST FALLS

INCREDIBLY PERFUMED FLOWERS ON COMPACT FOLIAGE. NOW YOU CAN GROW A WISTERIA IN ANY SIZE OF GARDEN.

A welcome twist to the quintessential garden favourite.

Boasting highly fragrant purple and lilac pea-like panicles during late spring and early summer. When grown in a pot the habit stays compact, perfect for your patio where you can sit and take in the full glory.

Unlike other Wisteria, which can take five years, the blooms will be produced after the first year. Prefers well-drained soil in sun or part-shade. Eventual height if planted in the ground 5m (16′). Spread 3.6m (12′).

Delivered in 10.5cm pots with our no quibble guarantee within 14 days.

BUY 3 POTS FOR JUST £8 EACH

HALF PRICE

To order visit **hayloft.co.uk/cl** or call **0844 335 1088**

Order Code **CL0717**

Name

Address

Postcode

Email Tel

By advising us of your email address we will be able to send all of our special offers.
Please tick here if you prefer not to receive offers other than from our company ☐

I enclose Cheque/PO made payable to Hayloft Plants Ltd or please debit my Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Maestro ☐

Card no. CSV

Please enter the last 3 digits of your security code (CSV).

Card expiry date Issue no Start date

Signature

PLEASE SEND	ITEM CODE	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
1 × WISTERIA	PTWAF01-CL0717	£16		
3 × WISTERIA	PTWAF03-CL0717	£24		
P&P (UK ONLY)				£4.95
			TOTAL DUE	

SEND THE COUPON TO:
Hayloft Plants
FREEPOST RTGR-JAGJ-JETG
Pensham, Pershore WR10 3HB

All orders will be personally confirmed by return with a copy of your summer catalogue. Call **01386 554440** for your FREE catalogue.



HAYLOFT PLANTS, MANOR FARM NURSERY, PENSHAM, PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE WR10 3HB

cyan®
INTEGRITY | VALUE | CRAFTSMANSHIP | STYLE

feel good furniture

Brompton Deluxe Teak Dining Set
1.2-1.8m Double Leaf Ext. Table & 6 Folding Armchairs
CS133 £664.99
+ EXTENDING TABLE Round Table transforms to Oval

quality & value

Teak Tree Seats
LT280 1.80m Diameter £674.99
LT055 2.20m Diameter £999.99
+ MORE SIZES & Bespoke options available



MORE GREAT OFFERS ONLINE cyan.co.uk

Teak Sun Lounger
LT176 £220.00
includes free cushion

+ FREE CUSHION worth up to £95 with Lounger & Steamer

Halo Teak Steamer Chair
LT602 £189.99
includes free cushion

+ FREE FOLDING PICNIC TABLE with any 2 Loungers or Steamers

Versailles Teak Planters
LT051 Standard £49.99
LT052 Large £79.99
LT053 XLarge £119.99

Our furniture is sustainable, SVLK accredited **Grade-A Teak** and **delivered fully assembled** for your immediate enjoyment

3 WAYS TO BUY ONLINE ▸ PHONE ▸ SHOWROOM

cyan.co.uk | 020 8655 6240

Unit 7&8 Gateway Business Park Station Approach Road Coulsdon CR5 2NS
Showroom Open Monday - Saturday: 9am-5pm • **Fast Nationwide Delivery**

All items except Sun Lounger delivered assembled. Prices valid till 31st August 2017 include VAT but exclude delivery.









RHINO
0800 694 1929
rhinogreenhouses.co.uk

For an exclusive extra discount off our SALE prices - Please quote CL16. Cannot be used with any other offer.

Strong can also be beautiful!

Whether you choose Silver Sage, Antique Ivory, Bay Tree Green or Blue Grass, our contemporary colours are all designed to complement your garden. With a Rhino, however beauty is far more than skin deep!

Thanks to its class leading features and ventilation your plants will really thrive, making gardening in a Rhino such a joy.

Rhinos are safe and very strong. The 4mm toughened glass will protect you and your family. A Rhino will also protect your bank balance, being around half the price of similar quality greenhouses because we sell direct from our UK factory!

Pay us a visit, in person or online to see what all the fuss is about.

FOR DETAILS OF CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING PLEASE TELEPHONE 020 3728 6260 OR VISIT WWW.HEARSTMAGAZINESDIRECT.CO.UK

General Interest

Property



SUSSEX COTTAGE FOR SALE

Situated in an Area of Outstanding Beauty, halfway between London and the South Coast an ideal garden lovers Sussex retirement Cottage or weekend retreat. Within the sound of the Church clock and walking distance to a gastronomic Pub. Accessed by a private track from a country lane, a beamed unlisted period Cottage dating back to the 17th. Century and standing in almost half an acre of beautiful well stocked gardens ideal for entertaining. Detached barn style triple garage with room above suitable for office/gym/hobby or additional accommodation (STPC) with views over the surrounding countryside. Additional outbuildings and greenhouse. Handmade kitchen/ breakfast with AGA. Traditional inglenook fireplace with wood burning stove in the sitting room. Unusual and adaptable layout. Suitable for extending or development. Offered for £775,000 with no onward chain. Available for the first time in 34 years and featured in Country Life in 1973.

For more information please phone 01825 732186

Courses

Stuck in a rut? Need a change?
Residential courses in the heart of Wiltshire. Choose from upholstery, soft furnishing or loose covers. Individual tuition.
Please telephone for details:
0797 925 1853
www.upholsteryworkshop.com

Good Housekeeping Institute COOKERY SCHOOL
020 7439 5500
www.goodhousekeeping.co.uk/institute/cookery-school

Pets & Livestock

CAMROSA OINTMENT
For animals with sore, broken & itchy skin. Promotes natural healing.

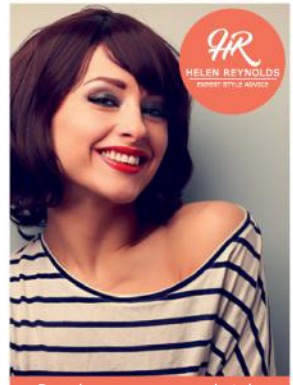


+44 (0)1892 783240 www.camrosa.co.uk

Fashion

NICOLA JANE
POST-SURGERY FASHION
2017 Collection
OUT NOW!
Beautiful bras, stunning lingerie sets, vests and swimwear designed for you after breast surgery.
FREE CATALOGUE
0800 081 2121
QUOTE CLZ06
www.nicolajane.com





HR HELEN REYNOLDS
Develop your personal style for maximum confidence.
www.helenreynoldsstyle.com

Umpie
UNIQUE BRITISH HANDBAGS MADE IN YORKSHIRE



www.umpiehandbags.com

Courses

How To Become A Successful Writer!

As a freelance writer, you can earn very good money in your spare time, writing the stories, articles, books, scripts etc that editors and publishers want. Millions of pounds are paid annually in fees and royalties. Earning your share can be fun, profitable and creatively most fulfilling.

To help you become a successful writer we offer you a first-class, home-study course from professional writers – with individual guidance from expert tutors and flexible tuition tailored to your own requirements. You are shown how to make the most of your abilities, where to find ideas, how to turn them into publishable writing and how to sell them. In short, we show you exactly how to become a published writer. **If you want writing success – this is the way to start!**

Whatever your writing ambitions, we can help you to achieve them. For we give you an effective, stimulating and most enjoyable creative writing course... appreciated by students and acclaimed by experts.

It's ideal for beginners. No previous experience or special background is required. You write and study at your own pace – you do not have to rush. **Many others have been successful this way**. If they can do it – why can't you?

We are so confident that we can help you become a published writer that we give you a **full refund guarantee**. If you have not earned your course fees from published writing by the time you finish the course, we will refund them in full.

If you want to be a writer start now by requesting a free copy of our prospectus 'Write and Be Published'. Please call our freephone number or visit our website NOW!

COURSE FEATURES

- 27 FACT-PACKED MODULES
- 2 SPECIALIST SUPPLEMENTS
- 20 WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS
- ADVISORY SERVICE
- TUTORIAL SUPPORT
- FLEXIBLE STUDY PROGRAMME
- STUDENT COMMUNITY AREA
- HOW TO PRESENT YOUR WORK
- HOW TO SELL YOUR WRITING
- 15 DAY TRIAL PERIOD
- FULL REFUND GUARANTEE

Get Your FREE PROSPECTUS Today!

www.writersbureau.com

FREEPHONE 24 HOURS Quote: JZ617

0800 856 2008



Sarah Plater "I'm currently working on my fourth book, have been paid for my writing by at least 15 different magazines, and now earn half my income from writing – all thanks to The Writers Bureau's course."

George Stewart "I am delighted to tell everyone that the course is everything it says on the tin, excellent! I am delighted that my writing is being published and I am actually being paid. All thanks to the Comprehensive Creative Writing course."





Elise Jones "I was being encouraged by The Writers Bureau to send out my work. This I did. Having sent out seven pieces five of them have been published."

YES! Please send me free details on how to become a successful, freelance writer.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

POST CODE .....

EMAIL .....

Freepost RSSK-JZAC-JCJG
The Writers Bureau
Dept JZ617
Manchester, M3 1LE

TRUSTPILOT

www.facebook.com/thewritersbureau
www.twitter.com/writersbureau

Writers Bureau 28 Years of Success

email: 17W1@writersbureau.com
Please include your name and address

Members of BILD and ABCC





Tom is enthusiastic about traditional country pubs, such as his own in Marlow, that use local seasonal produce, including British berries



MY COUNTRYSIDE TOM KERRIDGE

The chef and presenter on the joys of country pubs, great local food and being a dog owner

Having grown up in Gloucestershire, I'm a big fan of the West Country – it's definitely one of my favourite places. I have childhood memories of visits to the beach in Weston-super-Mare in Somerset, but now I like to travel further south to Devon and Cornwall, where you get a great mixture of fantastic coastline and so much wonderful countryside.

I grew up on an estate, the type of place that could be anywhere in the country. But where I live now, outside the village of Marlow in Buckinghamshire, is very different. Marlow itself is a fantastically vibrant, community-led town. It's great that it's quite close to London, too, so I can travel there for meetings and then be back in the country in just over an hour. When a pub came up for sale here, I knew instantly it was the one for us – it just ticked all the right boxes.

I like being able to retreat to the middle of nowhere. Where we live now, I wake up in the morning to fantastic views across the fields. After I've finished a late shift at The Hand and Flowers, I love driving home down the country lanes – you get to see so much wildlife. When you've spent time living in a city, you forget there's so much out there. Deer, badgers and foxes come to life at night. There's also an owl that lives in the woods near us – sometimes it will fly over the car as I'm driving.

We're really fortunate to have so many great pubs in the UK. The Beehive, just down the road in White Waltham, is a fantastic country inn with a village green at the front. I'm also a huge fan of The Sportsman in Seasalter – it's right on the beach and Stephen Harris, the chef there, cooks the most amazing local fish.

Pubs are often at the centre of a community – places where people can go and socialise. It doesn't matter if it's a rough-and-ready one where you pop in for a pint or a two-Michelin-star pub like ours – it's about the hospitality and I think that's something we get spot on in Britain.

One of the bestsellers at The Hand and Flowers is our roast beef on a Sunday. Done well, you cannot go wrong with that – great ingredients, a pudding from Yorkshire, seasonal vegetables and delicious gravy. It sums up brilliant British cooking – it's robust and hearty and all about local produce.

July is a great time of year for summer berries. We're not seen as a nation of fruit lovers, even though we're actually great at growing berries. British strawberries are just phenomenal, and I love gooseberries, too – they're often overlooked but they're a truly amazing ingredient.

Being healthy means different things to different people. When I was trying to lose weight, the meal I most enjoyed eating was an omelette – you can pack it full of flavour with fresh herbs, meat and vegetables. And a little bit of cheese if you fancy.

I'm a big supporter of British farming. Our produce is the foundation of the hospitality and catering industry. At the moment, no one knows the impact Brexit is going to have on everyone – from fruit pickers to dairy farmers. Anything that supports British farming is something I feel strongly about.

> Roast beef sums up brilliant British cooking

When it comes to city versus country, it's a bit selfish but I like to have my cake and eat it. Getting out in the countryside with my two dogs, Inky and Sponge, is one of my favourite things to do. I look at them running through puddles and think, 'What a life.'

Tom Kerridge's Dopamine Diet *is out now (Absolute Press, £20).*

INTERVIEW BY **LAURAN ELSDEN**. PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALAMY; JOHN CAREY/CAMERA PRESS; NEALE HAYNES/CONTOUR BY GETTY IMAGES


deVOL Kitchens
Leicestershire - London


SUMMER
SALE
C.P. HART 80 YEARS
LONDON SHOWROOMS: WATERLOO CHELSEA CHISWICK FULHAM NOTTING HILL
MUSWELL HILL WIMBLEDON PRIMROSE HILL REGENTS PARK ROAD
NATIONAL SHOWROOMS: DARTFORD BRIDGE GUILDFORD MANCHESTER ST ALBANS TUNBRIDGE WELLS
Products shown: Coniston bath & Gessi Mimi brassware
C.P. HART
www.cphart.co.uk